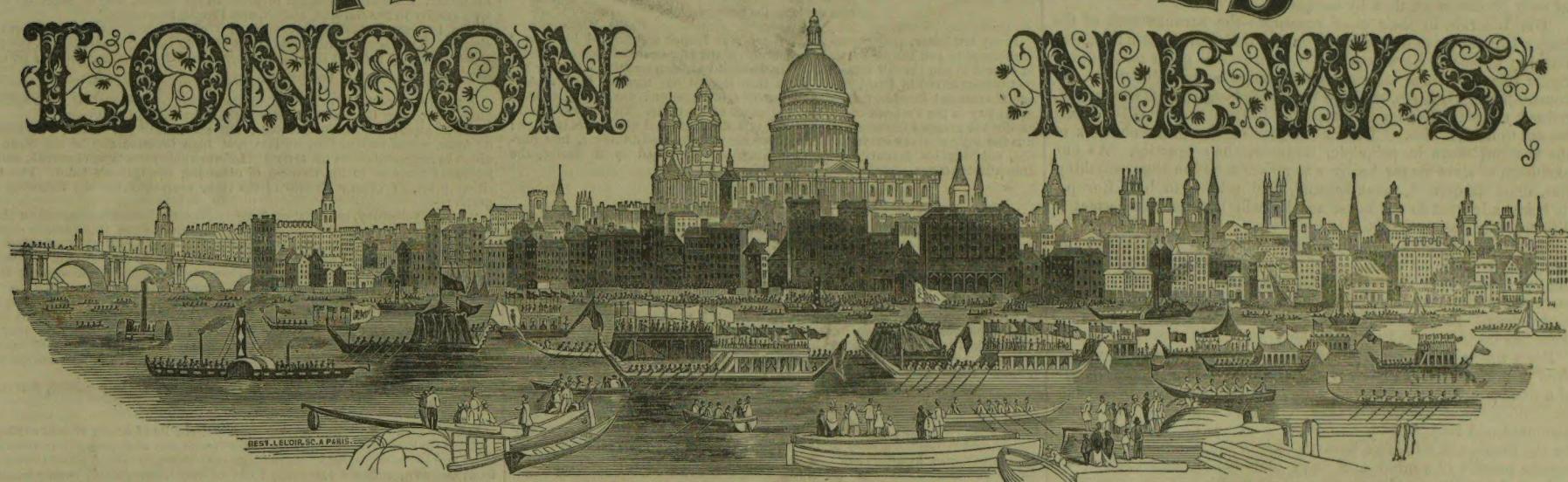


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

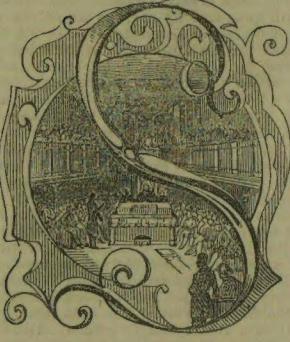


No. 226.—VOL. IX.]

FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, AUGUST 29, 1846.

[SIXPENCE.

THE PAST SESSION.


SILENCE again rests on the Halls of the Legislature, and there is a pause in the working of the great machine which for many months has been almost over-tasked. It is somewhat slow and cumbrous in its movements, but when managed with an earnest spirit and real intention, is capable of doing wonders. If perfect wisdom could always be united to absolute power much time and toil might be saved from the expenditure of both that is required to convert a principle into a fact; a short Ukase would supersede years of agitation, and months of debate. But as the two qualities are seldom united, save in "a lucky accident," it is better to trust to that system in which ideas struggle through long periods of opposition, where

By degrees to fulness wrought,
The strength of some diffusive thought
Hath time and space to work and spread.

The very existence of a Parliament supposes a state of continual flux and change, and constant adapting of laws and statutes to the necessities of the time; and we take the great merit of the often praised "British Constitution" to be that no one can say exactly what it is; it varies from year to year, and month to month; perpetually is it shaken; constantly is the nation declared to be on the brink of ruin, and yet escapes in a miraculous manner, and goes on thriving and flourishing under what the "chainers of the wheel" demonstrate

ought to destroy and lay it flat. They probably overlook the fact that in all change something is put in the place of that which is taken away, and that the eternal process is not one of abolition of all governing power, but the substitution of one form of it for another.

To those who regard all change with a kind of fear, the Session just closed must have been a terrible one indeed; when the Reform Bill passed, several Peers talked of selling off their estates and giving up England altogether as a lost land, in which none wearing coronets could thereafter live. A convention at St. Stephen's confiscating all men's goods, and the guillotine constantly at work at Charing-cross, were among the least terrible of the results they foresaw from the "revolutionary spirit" that insisted on cutting off two members from those boroughs which consisted of a few yards of wall and a gate post. But after a short space the ermine and strawberry leaves took comfort; the consequences were much less fatal than they anticipated. The Whigs were in office to be sure, which was a real calamity, but on the whole things went on very much as before; grass did not grow in the streets, pikes did not supersede walking sticks, nor did the Phrygian cap become a fashion, and what was more consoling, rents were paid with great punctuality, and it was discovered that rank and wealth had rather gained in influence by not being so much abused. So noble Lords bethought them, and came to the conclusion that England, after all, might be endured, that Dukes might breathe its air and survive. Nay, they soon perceived that the monstrous Reform Bill itself could be turned to account; they waxed bolder and bolder, abused Melbourne and the Whigs immeasurably, registered and canvassed and won elections, and actually in a few years "built up a great party" by means of the very measure which they first declared would be their social and political destroyer; and once more they were at the head of affairs, walking in the high places of the State, like wise men accepting the new state of things and acting accord-

ing to it, allowing that the change had been a good one and that their fears were unfounded.

This Session we have had something like this exhibition of exaggerated fears and gloomy prophecies over again. Another old system has yielded to the assault of time and opinion. But, we are bound to say, the alarm has been much less general and intense. When, in the winter of last year, it was announced that Sir Robert Peel would certainly abolish the Corn-Laws, men doubted: how could he gain the consent of the Peers to a measure it was supposed they would consider little less than a destruction of their property? In defence of this, if for anything, they would dare the utmost, plant the banner of "No Surrender" on the citadel, and die, if needful, in the "last ditch of the Constitution." But, whether the faith in predictions of disaster is less strong than of yore, or whether there was a secret persuasion that the Corn-Laws were not in reality that benefit they were supposed to be, certain it is, they fell with far less opposition than was anticipated. The House of Peers met the crisis in the best possible spirit. There can be no doubt that, if the system was of real advantage to any body, it was most of all so to them as a class; yet they placed no delays in the way of a settlement, discussed the question calmly, and deliberately abolished, by their decision, a system that had endured for ages. They did so, too, knowing that their vote could not secure to the Minister of the predominant party among them a continuance of his power. The system and its destroyer fell together—the last, honoured and applauded, but conscious that, according to ordinary calculation, his should not have been the hand to deal the blow.

For the magnitude of the changes it has produced, the past Session has been the most memorable one since the Reform era; some of its events were almost dramatic in their effect; thus the resignation of Sir Robert Peel, after the vote on the Coercion Bill, was rather a triumph than a defeat. Lord John Russell certainly



HER MAJESTY'S CRUISE.—THE ROYAL YACHT OFF THE NEEDLES, ISLE OF WIGHT.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

did not "darken his fall" with his own victory. The Whigs now occupy a throne which is theirs rather by the voluntary abdication of their predecessors, than by conquest.

The Liberals, in their chief measure—the arrangement of the Sugar Duties—have but followed out the policy of the late Premier; but they appear to have departed from it in one great particular—Sugar raised by slave labour is no longer to be excluded from our consumption. Hitherto, we have imported, bought, sold, exchanged, refined, exported it—done everything, in fact, except eat it; now we are to do that also. This is another of the great changes of the Session; more in principle, however, than practice. As our exclusion of slave Sugar before was rather a fiction than anything else, since we carried, manufactured, and sold it to half Europe, its being admitted to our home market will not make so great a difference as was anticipated.

The other measures of the Session require no recapitulation: the two great contending principles of the time have met in conflict on the two questions of Corn and Sugar: it seems almost strange that mere matters of commerce and finance should excite such intense controversy. Facts now will prove the best commentators both on what has been done and undone.

For a time the two great Leaders of the rival parties have retired from their public stations; one labouring under the reproaches of a disappointed and deceived party, but popular and possessing the confidence of the bulk of the represented classes; the other honoured and respected by all men, not excepting his opponents, for the manner in which he bore his part in the conflict, but suffering the penalty of a mind and body over-tasked, and obliged to seek, in the quietness of retreat, recruited health and strength; yet, even in retirement, he "works his work;" the Leader of the successful Opposition to a powerful Ministry, the organiser of a popular confederacy; the destroyer of old creeds and systems, feasted by a Monarch, and addressing the men of a foreign land, on principles as applicable to them as to ourselves, is one of the strangest spectacles of modern times—one that suggests many reflections.

England must, at the present moment, furnish a wondrous spectacle to other nations: the boldness with which we plunge into changes which the Powers of the Continent dare not even contemplate; the sympathy of opinion that seems to exist between the higher and the middle classes; the readiness with which a veteran Statesman has acknowledged the effect of his antagonist's arguments, and the quiet easy manner in which a social revolution and a change of Government can be effected, as if—

The common sense of most did hold a fretful realm in awe—

All these are the fruits of a long discipline in the working of Constitutional and Parliamentary power. Nor are the material interests with which our Legislature has to deal less important than the political and moral. The Senate of Rome never had the direction of half the amount of wealth the expenditure of which is authorised by the English Parliament in a single year. It deals with millions as if they were thousands, leaving millions still to spare for undertakings in other lands. In this respect we have startled many even among ourselves, who think that a tighter hand on the reins of speculation would have added to the advantages the country hopes to derive from the unexampled activity, industry, and duration of the Session of 1846.

THE ROYAL CRUISE, AND RETURN TO OSBORNE HOUSE.

On Saturday morning, soon after six o'clock, his Royal Highness Prince Albert landed from the *Victoria and Albert* yacht, lying in Barnpool, and proceeded in a carriage and four to Dartmoor. His Royal Highness was attended by three members of the Royal suite. The carriage proceeded to the Millbay Pier, where the Prince and attendants went on board boats from the Royal yacht, and were rowed to Barnpool. Her Majesty was on board at the moment of the arrival of his Royal Highness, and came to the yacht's side to receive him.

At a few minutes after ten o'clock, her Majesty, accompanied by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, disembarked from the Royal yacht under a salute from Mount Wise, and proceeded in the state-barge to the shore at Mount Edgcumbe, where the noble proprietor and the Countess were waiting to receive her. The persons, who had assembled in large numbers on the beach, cheered her Majesty as she approached the shore.

The Queen remained at Mount Edgcumbe until about one o'clock, when she returned to the Royal yacht, and remained on board until the arrival of the Prince Consort. Shortly after which her Majesty and Prince Albert, attended by the Countess Jocelyn and the Hon. Miss Napier, the Right Hon. Alfred Paget, and Baron Stockmar, left the State Barge, and proceeded, under salutes from the citadel and Mount Wise, to Mount Edgcumbe, where the Royal party were received by the Countess of Mount Edgcumbe. The Royal party remained on shore about two hours and a half, viewing the delightful scenes of the park and grounds, and, it is understood, enjoying the hospitality of the noble proprietor.

On Sunday morning at half-past nine the *Victoria and Albert* Royal yacht, with her Majesty on board, and the *Fairy*, tender, and the *Black Eagle* and *Garland*, steamers composing the Royal squadron, slipped their moorings, and having their steam up, were in a few minutes proudly dashing on their way out of the Sound.

Her Majesty and Prince Albert returned to Osborne House from their marine excursion on Monday. Both the Queen and her Royal Consort appeared in excellent health and spirits. On Tuesday afternoon, the Royal party was joined by the Duchess of Kent, who arrived at the Royal Clarence Yard, Gosport, at three o'clock, and crossed over to the Isle of Wight in the *Fairy* steam-yacht, under a salute of twenty-one guns from the platform battery and the men-of-war in commission.

Our Artist has, in the preceding page, engraved the Royal Yacht passing through the Needles for Plymouth, on the morning of Tuesday week. There was a heavy sea; though the Queen remained on deck the whole of the passage. The Royal squadron, comprising the *Victoria and Albert* yacht and the Admiralty yacht *Black Eagle*, started at nine o'clock, and passed through Cowes Roads under a salute from the yachts and battery.

VISIT OF HER MAJESTY TO GUERNSEY.

(From a Correspondent.)

About seven o'clock on Sunday evening last, her Majesty the Queen, in the Royal Yacht steamer, *Victoria and Albert*, accompanied by the *Fairy*, *Black Eagle*, and *Garland*, entered the Little Russell, a channel which runs between Guernsey and the island of Herm, and approached the town of St. Peter's Port. Her Majesty's visit being quite unexpected, no preparations had been made, and the servants of the Lieutenant were surprised by being sent for during divine service at St. James's Church. On being apprised of the Queen's arrival the Lieutenant-Governor immediately embarked in a boat to attend to her Majesty's orders. His Excellency shortly returned, and announced to the crowd assembled on the Pier that her Majesty would land with her retinue at nine on the following morning. Notwithstanding the suddenness of her Majesty's visit, the people manifested their loyalty in the most gratifying manner; for, before eight o'clock, the town, when viewed from the Pier-heads, presented one blaze of light. Every house was brilliantly illuminated: from ten to twenty lights were to be seen in every window. Never was the town of St. Peter in such a stir. The inmates of every house came forth to see their Sovereign. Young and old, rich and poor, were congregated together. From eight o'clock till ten there was one incessant display of fireworks. Blue and red lights, rockets and Roman candles, were kept up till that time, whilst the loud tones of the National Anthem were to be heard from the crowd throughout the whole evening. The windows of L' Hotel de L' Europe, and Marshall's Royal Yacht Club Hotel, were gorgeously lighted.

So early as five o'clock on Monday morning, the pier was crowded to excess. Many persons staid out the whole night, in the hope of thereby obtaining a good situation to see her Majesty's disembarkation. The streets through which it was known that the Royal Procession would pass were decorated with innumerable flags, festoons, and wreaths of flowers, and lined on each side with the town regiment, which was called out at six o'clock.

Precisely at nine o'clock the Barge, with the Royal Standard floating at the head, containing the Queen and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, was seen approaching the town. The eight bells in the parish church immediately began to sound a merry peal, which continued the whole day; and a Royal salute was fired from Fort George, both on the occasion of her Majesty's arrival and departure from the island. On the instant the boat entered the harbour, it was greeted with the most enthusiastic cheering.

Her Majesty and Prince Albert, in an open carriage and four, preceded by the Lieutenant-Governor, officers of the regiments, &c., proceeded from the Pier up High-street, Smith-street, along the Grange-road, and Colborne-road, to Fort George—the principal fortification in the island; and, having stopped to admire the view, returned down the Grange-road to the Harbour. The reception her Majesty met with here could not but be gratifying; the event put a stop to all business; many of the shops in the High-street were closed during the whole day.

Within an hour and a half, her Majesty and Prince Albert proceeded to the Pier, where they embarked on board the barge of the Royal yacht, and were soon alongside. The squadron then departed in the direction of the Isle of Wight, and quickly lost sight of the privileged island of Guernsey.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

PARISIANA.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Wednesday.

In my last letter, against every assertion of the French and English journals, I announced to you the approaching conclusion of the new opera of Rossini; and I explained to you the fair influence under which it had been written. A letter has just been received in Paris, announcing that Rossini has married his *Armida*; and the musical *Rinaldo*, resuming his panoply of "glorious war," is coming to seek glory in the Parisian arena, the birthplace of his bride. This operatic event excites the greatest sensation amongst the idle *dilettanti* and quidnuncs in Paris; it is the topic of every conversation; and we see it celebrated in verse, how Rossini, enjoying his favourite pastime, fishing, was surprised by M. Scribe, the dramatic *Briareus*.

"Rossini pêche sur la Rive,
Monsieur Scribe passe par là."

&c. &c. &c., at this moment, is the favourite song of our *gobemouches*. Speaking of news I have been the first to give you, I likewise have just seen in the English journals the announcement, as a novelty, of the approaching arrival in England of the Princess William of Prussia; you published that news in a letter of mine long since.

The attention of the Parisians, this week, has been turned towards two personages circumstances have brought out in relief—the Comte de Paris and the Marquis of Normanby. The young Count this week completed his ninth year; and all that could get access to the Palace, suddenly recollecting his existence, have flocked to behold the future King of France. None have been more happy to behold the vigour of mind and body of the young Prince than the party at present opposed to the Government. That party, having M. Thiers at its head, struggled to get the future Regency for the Prince's mother, instead of his uncle, the Duke de Nemours. Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Orleans, chagrined at the preference given her brother-in-law, and, from her sorrows, and her being of the Protestant faith, not mixing in the gay scenes of the Court, has naturally been considered as not a little in the Opposition; and the party displaced from Ministerial power look up to her, on the King's death, to make a struggle against the Duke de Nemours—an excellent and gifted Prince, but unpopular—and, through this means, resume their position. As to Lord Normanby, his nomination is generally rejoiced at by all parties. The French Court have escaped one of those thorough-paced Whig Ambassadors of the Palmerston and Ponsonby style, who are anti-Gallican to the back-bone; whilst the volatile and artful circles of Paris see in the noble poet and novelist an Ambassador just suited to their tastes—perspective of gay *rénovations*, and of encouragement to art.

If I had time and space I would give you an account of the number of provincial horse races which have lately taken place owing to the new-born taste of our volatile nation for *le sport* and *le turf*. Some of Louis Philippe's lieges—that is to say the spectators, and still more, the mob—have been greatly indignant at the absence of any competent contests. Their indignation at Caen Races was unbounded when they saw M. Aumont's horse walk over the course without any contest—first for a prize of 1000, and next for another of 6000 francs. I heard Lord C.—at the Hippodrome, relating, with great zest, to his neighbour, that when the indignant bystanders were told by a French sporting gentleman that even in England horses sometimes walked over the course, there was a huge explosion of incredulity, derision, and discontent on the part of the provincial taurites: whilst one man roared out in French, "None of your chaff—those silly rogues the English are too good judges to part with their money without either fight or fun!" Verily, *le sport* is not as yet our forte. Whilst we French folks adopt anything for the sake of novelty, our love of our own localities, and, consequently, our untravelled habits, make us the worst of imitators. We only copy what we see through our own medium.

FRANCE.

THE LATE ATTEMPT UPON THE LIFE OF LOUIS PHILIPPE.

The trial of Joseph Henri, for shooting at his Majesty, Louis Philippe, on the 29th of July, commenced before the Court of Peers on Tuesday.

The commencement of this trial attracted even less attention than that of Leconte. The galleries were almost empty. At ten minutes to twelve, M. Barroche, the prisoner's counsel, took his seat. At a quarter past twelve, the Peers entered the hall. The prisoner was then brought in by the gendarmes, and bowed to the Court. He wore spectacles, and was clad in a black redingote. He is a short and spare man, with a pale and insignificant face. He conversed for a moment with his Counsel. The Procureur-General, Hebert, and Avocat-General Bresson, took their seat at the parquet, when the Chancellor declared the sittings opened.

After the secretary had called over the names of the members of the Court, the President ordered the accused to stand up, and asked him his name, profession, &c.

The prisoner replied—My name is Joseph Henri. I was born at Charmes, in the department of the Upper Saône. I am 51 years of age. I lived in Rue de Limoges, No. 8, where I had a manufactory of fancy articles.

The President having then told him to sit down, the Recorder read the bill of indictment to the Court.

The President next proceeded to interrogate the prisoner.

Joseph Henri said that he had of late experienced great misfortunes; that, during the last six years, he had constantly meditated to commit suicide; but that, not having the courage to kill himself, he wished to fall by the hand of another. He married 25 years ago, and, for the last 18 years, was unhappy on account of the bad conduct of his wife. On being asked what could have induced him to attempt the King's life, he replied, that in order to accomplish his end, he had resolved to fire upon an exalted personage. His intention was, not to kill, but merely to inflict a contusion, a slight wound. He had no particular political opinion: he prized an honest man, whatever his political principles might be. Noboddy was aware of his project. He fired two pistol shots upon the King. The pistols were loaded with slugs. He had purchased them on the Boulevard from a man named Caron, on the 30th of June, the day before he mounted guard at the Palace of the Tuilleries. He had not contemplated firing upon the King on that day; he knew his Majesty was not in Paris; besides he did not intend to strike so high. No sooner had he arrived at the Carousel, and found himself surrounded by his comrades and chiefs, than he renounced his intention. On the 29th of July, he was determined to die, and resolved to fire upon some high personage, a Marshal of France, for instance, but reflecting that the Jury might bring in a verdict "with extenuating circumstances," he preferred firing upon the King. It was said that it was through pride he would not work in the service of others. This was not true. His infirmities alone prevented him from adopting that course. He did not wish, nor could he find resolution enough to commit suicide. Those who committed suicide evidently laboured under fever, and were not in possession of their faculties. He had not been fortunate enough to be visited with that fever. His object, besides, was to render a service to society, by affording a new argument in favour of the abolition of capital punishment. Sooner or later, it would, he hoped, be abolished; and he would die happy if he was instrumental in contributing to that result. Other penalties were punishments; the pain of death was no punishment. In his misfortune, he had applied to all classes of society; he had sought relief from clergymen, merchants, capitalists, and philanthropists—M. Lamartine amongst others—all had rejected his appeal, on account of his infirmity, and when he found that he had no means left of retrieving his fortune, he said to himself, "My only alternative is death; I cannot kill myself; men will kill me." When he was arrested on the 29th July, he feared, from the attitude of the crowd, that they would massacre him, and he exclaimed, "Spare me, for I have accomplices," and that expedient saved his life. Had he perished in that manner, he would have had no opportunity of vindicating himself, and would have passed for a monster. He had at one moment thought of placing himself in the passage of the King, in the Avenue de Neuilly, and firing upon his carriage so as to leave a mark upon it, but the fear of wounding one of the servants standing behind it, or one of the outriders, had deterred him from his project, for he never wished to inflict the least injury on one of his fellow-creatures.

The Attorney-General next interrogated the prisoner relative to the high personage he intended to kill on the 30th of June.—"You mean," replied Joseph Henri, "to fire upon, for I never wished any harm to mortal. I never was guilty of a base act; and, had I been animated by feelings of revenge or hatred, I would have killed one of the persons who had occasioned my ruin." The examination of the witnesses afterwards commenced.—The first witness was the police-officer Ronssou, who arrested Joseph Henri, in the garden of the Tuilleries, on the 29th of July, and with difficulty conducted him to the post of the police.

The second witness, named Quentin, had assisted in apprehending the prisoner, who cried to him, "Spare me." He then gave him in charge to the guard.

The two next witnesses deposed that, after the prisoner had fired, he dropped the pistols, and, turning towards them, he opened his coat, saying, "I am not the person; I have no arms."

Joseph Henri denied having used those expressions.

The next witness, a Sergeant-Major of the 72nd Regiment, had also heard those expressions.

When our last accounts left Paris, the trial was not concluded.

Last Saturday the Chamber of Peers voted, by a majority of 102 to 4, an Address in reply to the King's Speech, and, in the evening, it was presented to his Majesty, who returned the following answer:—"I am much touched with the sentiments you express in this Address, and it is ever pleasing to me to tell you how much mine respond to them. These conspicuous manifestations have enabled me to endure sorrowful trials; and I find in the loyal co-operation of which you reiterate the assurance, a precious pledge of the preservation of what you so justly call the glorious conquests of modern civilisation, the faithful maintenance of our institutions, and the security of the rights of all. So long as it shall please God to protract my life, it shall be devoted, with your support, to that noble object, and to the progressive development of the happiness and prosperity of France."

The Marquis of Normanby, the newly-appointed Ambassador to the Court of the Tuilleries, has arrived with his Marchioness and suite at Paris. On Monday the noble Marquis presented his credentials to the King. The state carriages of his Majesty were sent to the British Embassy to fetch the noble Ambassador, and, after the presentation, conveyed him back to the Faubourg St. Honoré.

The Earl of Cardigan has arrived in Paris.

Some experiments are being made on the Rouen and Havre Railway, to ascertain the strength of the works; and it is reported that the Government will authorise the opening of the line in the beginning of the winter, but that for some time it will only be open for the transport of goods, so as fully to test the solidity of the constructions.

The *Presse* announces that the Count de Paris entered his ninth year on Monday

last, the Royal infant having been born on the 24th of August, 1838. "The Count de Paris," adds the *Presse*, "although of a delicate constitution, enjoys excellent health. He is tall for his age, and his features strongly resemble those of his father. He has made much progress in his studies, and he expresses himself with facility in the German, Italian, and French languages."

The increase in the price of corn has created a great deal of discontent in France. Some serious riots have taken place in the departments, and the papers speak as if they thought that the discontent had by no means reached its utmost height.

SPAIN.

We have accounts from Madrid to the 20th inst. The chief topic which appeared to occupy the public mind was the marriage of the Queen.

Public attention was still directed to the presence of the Infante Don Francisco de Assiz, whom various Corporations and high functionaries of the State were about to congratulate on his arrival. Innumerable reports were spread, and conjectures formed as to his chances of obtaining the Queen's hand. The Opposition print, *El Clamor Publico* of the 19th, even ventures the following paragraph:—

"It was, yesterday, said that on Monday evening a meeting had taken place at the Palace, which several Prelates, the presidents of the legislative bodies, the Duke de Ballen, the Ministers, and some of the Members of the Council of State had attended; and that the Queen's marriage had been the object of the meeting. There are persons who even affirm that her Majesty's marriage with the Infante Don Francisco de Assiz is to be solemnised this day or to-morrow."

A letter from Madrid says—"Not the least doubt now exists that the Spanish, French, and British Cabinets have fixed upon Don Francisco de Assiz as the future husband of Isabel Segunda, instead of his brother Don Enrique, who, since his indiscreet alliance with the Progressistas, has lost all chance of becoming the Royal Consort, unless it be by the advent to power of Espartero and his party, which can only take place through a revolution."

The British Minister at Madrid, Mr. Bulwer, has slightly rallied, but still remains in a precarious condition.

ITALY.

The Marseilles and Italian papers contain accounts of a very violent earthquake on the 14th inst., which occasioned great loss of life and property in several villages and towns of Tuscany. The village of Osciano, situated at about twenty miles from Leghorn, suffered extremely; out of one hundred and twenty houses, of which this village is composed, two only have remained standing in the midst of the general ruin. Fifty-nine persons were there killed, and sixty-five wounded. At Leghorn, almost all the houses are rent more or less. They say that the ground in the streets opened and shut: this is probably imaginary only, the consequence of the terror into which the people were thrown.

Some interesting details respecting the earthquake are given in the following letter, dated Leghorn, Aug 17:—"This town has experienced an earthquake, which has thrown the inhabitants into the greatest state of alarm. On the 14th inst., at 50 minutes p.m., the first shock was felt, having been preceded by a subterranean noise. The shock lasted from seven to eight seconds. The oscillations were at first perpendicular, and as if produced by a rising up of the earth taken from the south-east to the north-east, and repeated five or six times. Household furniture was displaced and thrown down; the church bells violently agitated. The noise produced by the cracking of beams and the walls which opened, gave warning of an impending catastrophe. The inhabitants, terrified, threw themselves into the street, evincing the greatest fear and despair; women throwing themselves down on their knees, imploring the Madonna de Montenero, the patroness of the town; the men making the sign of the cross and hastening to the residence of their families to give them succour. During the night several other shocks were felt; the earth seemed to be in a continued convulsion. The sky was free from clouds, but there was a thick mist in the air which produced a melancholy on the mind. The palace occupied by M. de la Rocheboncaval, the French

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

FURTHER EXPLANATION FROM LORD LYNDHURST.—Lord LYNDHURST read a letter which he had received from Sir R. Peel, wishing him to correct an erroneous statement, imputing to him an expression of a desire for the reconstruction of the Conservative party. As the letter was occasioned by a misapprehension, he read it to their Lordships as a confirmation of the statement he had made on Saturday.

The Irish Constabulary Bill was read a second time; some other bills were disposed of; and the House adjourned, after a short sitting.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

The House met at twelve o'clock, and sat four hours.

BRITISH INTERESTS IN MEXICO.—Lord GEORGE BENTINCK called the attention of the House to the present state of British interests in Mexico, consequent on the war between that country and the United States of America. The noble Lord concisely adverted to the great stake which this country held in the fortunes of Mexico; and, having narrated the events that preceded the war, contended that territorial aggrandisement was the ruling passion of America; hence, he concluded that Mexico would undergo a similar fate to Texas, unless this country interfered. The sentiment that prevailed through America was, that the stars which bespangle their flag should be so increased indefinitely. He wanted to know how long our Government would look tamely upon this aggrandisement—would it be before Mexico and California were annexed? He desired to know the result of the mediation which had taken place between this country and America, and to press on the Government the necessity of affording full security to our West India possessions, so as to control the usurpation and dominion of the United States.—Lord PALMERSTON said he did not think it probable that Mexico would be annexed to the United States, though, if it were, he admitted that the interests of this country would be seriously damaged thereby. An offer of mediation had been made by Sir Robert Peel's Government, but the Oregon question then interfered. The offer simply was, that if the United States were disposed to ask the mediation of England, it would be immediately offered. The United States, in consequence of the then unsettled state of the Oregon question, had given no answer. Now, however, as the Oregon question was set at rest, and the treaty ratified, the Government had given instructions to Mr. Pakenham to renew the offer of mediation. This offer had been made, and in such a form that it would require an answer from the Government of the United States. A corresponding offer had been made to the Government of Mexico. Lord Palmerston, in the course of his speech, said that he believed the preservation of peace over the world would be best secured by an extension of commerce, which was now likely to take place under the principles of Free-Trade.—Mr. DISRAELI could find no satisfaction in the vague declaration, that in the principle of extending trade a stoppage of foreign wars was to be found. Such a theory was absurd. The political existence of Mexico might be lost ere a month or two elapsed, and the House was, therefore, entitled to demand of the Government to consider the subject seriously.—Mr. WAKLEY said it was impossible not to be struck with the novel position of the present Government. He always regarded the noble Lord as a peaceful Minister. (Hear, hear, from Lord Palmerston.) If there ever had been an impression that the noble Lord wished for war, it ought to be removed by the speech made by him this afternoon, for a more peaceful speech he (Mr. Wakley) had never heard. But the noble Lord must be somewhat astonished at finding that a complaint was made against him because he had not interfered. He was delighted to find that the noble Lord wished for peace between the United States and Mexico, and he hoped the noble Lord would persevere in his policy.

The rest of the afternoon was occupied in the disposal of the various bills before the House.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

THE EARL OF RIFON'S EXPLANATION.—The Earl of RIFON, in the most emphatic terms, indignantly repelled the charge lately preferred against him by Lord George Bentinck, of having bartered the patronage of the Chief-Justiceship of Bombay for the patronage of the living of Notton. The noble Earl said he should leave the vindication of his character to the statement of facts made by Lord Lyndhurst, but he owed it to his own sense of honour to give the accusation the most unqualified contradiction. "My Lords," he said, "this I am compelled to state, and I do so on my honour as a gentleman, and as if it were the last word that I was to utter on this side of the grave, that I do absolutely deny, in the most unqualified manner, that there either is, or was, the slightest foundation for the imputation that was cast upon me. My Lords, that imputation was no slight matter. It was not an imputation that merely affected me in my political capacity, but it was one which mixed up a much more grave and serious accusation, namely, that of trafficking in a matter of ecclesiastical patronage, and of endeavouring, by the most scandalous interchange of advantages, to obtain for myself the nomination to a living which I was desirous that a friend of mine should possess. My Lords, I consider that the disposal of ecclesiastical patronage is a matter of awful responsibility. It does not merely concern the mere temporal advantages of those over whom the Minister is placed, but matters of a far higher interest; and to suppose that any man of common feeling, who has a sense of what is right in his bosom, would be guilty of so dishonourable and scandalous a traffic, is an assertion that ought not to be made, unless it is so clearly provable as that the sun is visible at noonday."

The Poor Employment (Ireland) Bill was committed, and some other bills having also been advanced a stage, the House adjourned till two o'clock on Wednesday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

THE POOR LAW COMMISSIONERS.—Mr. HUME moved the resolutions which he had placed on the paper, condemning the conduct of the Poor Law Commissioners, but withdrew them after he had made a speech.—Sir GEORGE GREY promised that the Government would give the subject their earliest consideration.—Mr. ETWALL gave notice that he would take the earliest opportunity, next session, of calling the attention of the House to the Report of the Andover Committee.

DISTRESS IN MAYO.—Mr. DILLON BROWNE called the attention of the House to the distress that existed in the county Mayo. The potato crop, he said, had entirely failed there, and there were not less than 42,000 persons in that county in a state of famine, and an immense number in a state bordering on destitution.—Sir D. NORREYS corroborated Mr. Browne's statement.—The O'CONOR DON said that similar distress existed in Roscommon, Galway, and other counties.—Mr. LABOUCHERE assured the House that unremitting attention to the subject of Irish distress would be given by the Government. The measures that they had introduced would, he hoped, mitigate the evils complained of, but they did not rest satisfied there, nor think that they had done all that was necessary. The Lord-Lieutenant and the Government would devote their best consideration to the question.

The House, which had met at twelve, was occupied after this, until a quarter past three, in disposing of various bills. At that hour, the House adjourned till two o'clock on Wednesday.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—WEDNESDAY.

The House of Lords met to-day chiefly that the Royal Assent might be given by Commission to certain bills recently passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

The House met at two, and sat till six.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.—Lord PALMERSTON, in answer to a question from Dr. Bowring, stated that the Russian Government had consented, by treaty, to forego the exclusive privilege of trading with Turkey, being anxious that Russia should place itself on a fair and impartial footing with the other nations of Europe. In answer to a question from Sir H. Douglas, the noble Lord also intimated that a gentleman had been sent out to Buenos Ayres, with the view of communicating with the French Minister there, in order, if possible, to bring about a termination of hostilities in that quarter.

THE HAYDOCK LODGE LUNATIC ASYLUM.—Mr. WAKLEY brought under the consideration of the House the abuses which had taken place in the management of the Haydock Lodge Lunatic Asylum, and moved for various returns, and for the appointment of a Commission therupon. The hon. gentleman entered largely into the facts which had been brought to light respecting this asylum, one of which was that the mortality in the second year of its establishment was no less than 112 out of 450. It was to be recollected that Mr. Mott was the superintendent of this asylum while holding the office of auditor of the union in which it was situated; and, taking all matters into consideration, he thought an inquiry was indispensable into the scandalous proceedings connected with it.—Mr. FIELDEN, in seconding the motion, said the proceedings connected with the asylum were perfectly disgraceful.—Sir G. GREY regretted that the hon. member had brought forward this most important subject before so thin a house. All the facts which had been stated with so much force were contained in the papers which had already been laid on the table of the House. He admitted that those facts showed that private lunatic asylums were in the most deplorable state, and he was afraid it was entirely out of the power of Parliament to remedy that state. With regard to a Commission of Inquiry, the hon. member must remember that the Commissioners of Lunacy were not at all implicated in this ill-treatment of lunatics. He admitted that it was most discreditable to any parties employed under the Poor-Law Commission, to be connected with the management of Lunatic Asylums. After the disclosures that had been made, he thought that the Commissioners of Lunacy ought to direct their most close attention to the conduct of the managers of the Haydock Lunatic Asylum. The only remedy for the evils connected with Lunatic Asylums was in the hands of the magistrates of this country, who should immediately set about erecting County Lunatic Asylums. He hoped, in conclusion, that the hon. member would not press his motion.—After a few words from Mr. R. YORKE and Mr. P. BOOTHWICK, Mr. WAKLEY replied, and hoped the right hon. gentleman the Home Secretary would make an effectual inquiry into the case before the next session of Parliament; and, if this could not be done, he should feel it his duty to move for an inquiry to investigate the circumstances.

The motion was then withdrawn; and the House, which had been almost entirely occupied with this subject, adjourned till three o'clock on Thursday.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

The House met at half-past three o'clock.

The Commons' amendments to the Small Debts Bill were agreed to.

The District Lunatic Asylums Bill, the Railway Commissioners Bill, and the Pawnbrokers Bill, were read a third time and passed.

STATE OF IRELAND.—THE POTATO CROP.

The Earl of RODEN then rose and expressed a hope that he might be allowed to take the last opportunity of saying a few words upon the state of Ireland. The noble Earl then adverted in general terms to the state of Ireland, and the calamity of the failure of the potato crop. Within the last few days, he had traversed the province of Ulster, and he believed there was not one field which was not tainted. There was also another evil—a great deficiency of the oat crop.

He stated these facts with the view of impressing upon her Majesty's Government the awful responsibility which rested upon them.

The Earl of CLARENDON assured the noble Earl (Rodan) that the most earnest attention of the Government would be directed to the subject. The accounts alluded to by the noble Earl were most distressing, and he hoped the measures of the Government would mitigate the evils complained of.

Some routine business was then disposed of, and the House adjourned at five o'clock till Friday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The Speaker took the chair at half-past three o'clock.

Mr. FOSTER moved for leave to send a message to the Lords, for a copy of the reports on the progress of the building of the Houses of Parliament.—Agreed to, and the message sent.

Mr. WARBURTON brought in a Bill to restore Arrest on Mesne Process in civil actions, under certain limitations, which was read a first time, and ordered to be printed.

The House then adjourned, at half-past four, till Friday.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"J. W."—Published frequently before.

"J. T. B."—The position you refer to must have been mislaid. Have you a copy?

The beautiful Problem by Mr. Kling, in the August "Chess Chronicle," will amply repay you for the purchase of the Number.

"A. W."—When the conditions of solution to a Problem are "to move and win," they merely mean that White, having first move, is to win the game without limitation as to the number of moves.

"J. L. L."—We should recommend Lewis's last Treatise, decidedly. The Match between M.M. Staunton and Harrwitz has commenced, and the latter has won the three games at odds already played. We shall report upon its progress next week.

"F. C." Peckham.—Your solution of No. 280 is correct. Any one of respectability is eligible for admission as a member to the London Chess Club; and no qualification as to strength of play is required.

"An Inquirer" is hypercritical. With sometimes a hundred communications on Chess to examine at once, it is not surprising that a single solution to a Problem should have been overlooked.

"D. W."—Your question is quite unintelligible.

"W. R."—The position of the pieces in Mr. Kling's ingenious Problem in "The Chess-Player's Chronicle" is correct. You will find another, also extremely clever, in the Number for September, just out, from India, by "Shagird."

"Old Stager," "Hector," and "S. S. M."—We are grieved to say the reported death of Dr. Bledow is confirmed by a letter we have just received from his friend Von H. de Laza. Dr. Bledow expired on the 6th instant, after a few days' illness only, at Berlin, in his fifty-first year. The Chess Journal which he had commenced conducting will still be carried on by the Berlin Chess Club.

"T. Y. P."—We are utterly ignorant of the principles of the "Round Game." Do you mean the game of Chess played by four persons? If so, there is a little book extant containing rules for playing it, which may be got at most of the Chess-men Turners.

"R. F. D." Lisbon.—Your problems and solutions shall be duly examined.

"B. C."—Your first attempt is perfectly correct.

Solutions by "M. P." "Styk," "B. C." "Muff," "J. E. G." "J. T. B." "P. W." "L. L. C." "Clapton," "G. A. H." "Hitchin," "W. R." "Glasgow," "Sopracitta," "J. V." "T. B. W." "Frant," "H. P. G. C." "H. M." "Bristol," "T. B." "Bradford," "Valley-field," "P. A. C." and "J. L." are correct.

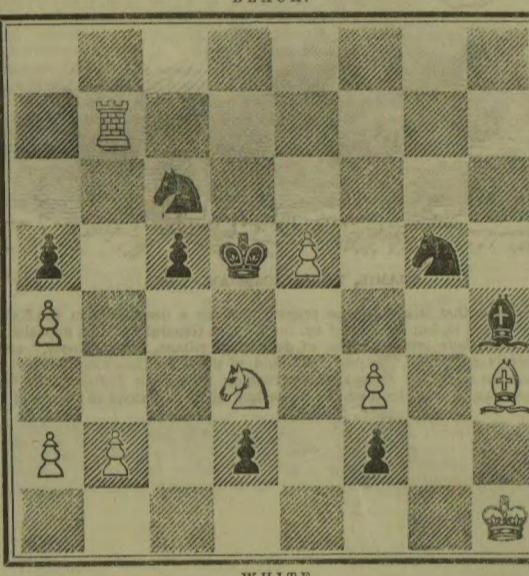
** SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEMS NO. 134 and 135 next week.

PROBLEM NO. 136.

By Mr. R. F. HODGSON, of the Bengal Civil Service.

White to play and checkmate in seven moves.

BLACK.



WHITE.

GAMES IN THE MATCH BETWEEN M. M. KIESERITZKI AND HORWITZ (CONTINUED.)

GAME THE SIXTH.

| WHITE (Mr. H.) | BLACK (Mr. K.) | WHITE (Mr. H.) | BLACK (Mr. K.) |
|----------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1. K P two | K P two | 13. Q takes B | Q takes Q (ch) |
| 2. K Kt to B 3rd | Q Kt to B 3rd | 14. K takes Q | K B P two |
| 3. Q P two | P takes P | 15. Kt to Q 5th | P takes P |
| 4. Kt takes P | K B to Q B 4th | 16. B takes P | Castles (ch) |
| 5. Kt to K B 5th | K Kt P one | 17. K to Kt 3rd | R to K B 2nd |
| 6. K Kt to his 3rd | K P one | 18. B to K R 6th | B to K B 4th |
| 7. K B to Q 3rd | K Kt to B 3rd | 19. B to K B 3rd | Kt to Q 5th |
| 8. Q Kt to B 3rd (a) | K Kt to his 5th | 20. Q B P one | Kt takes B |
| 9. Castles (b) | K to K R 5th | 21. P takes Kt | Q B P one |
| 10. K R P one | K takes K B P | 22. Kt to K 3rd | Q R to K Sq |
| 11. R takes Kt | K takes Kt | 23. K to Q B 4th | Q R to K 3rd |
| 12. Q to K B 3rd | B takes R (ch) | 24. K R P one | K R to K 2nd |

The Game was prolonged a few moves, and won by Mr. Kieseritzki.

(a) Instead of this move White should have Castled or played K B P one.

(b) It is hardly credible that a player so proficient in the openings should fall into the well-known dilemma resulting from this position.

GAME THE SEVENTH.

| WHITE (Mr. K.) | BLACK (Mr. H.) | WHITE (Mr. K.) | BLACK (Mr. H.) |
|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1. K P two | K P two | 20. Q B to K Kt 5th | Q R to Q 2nd |
| 2. K B to Q B 4th | K Kt to B 3rd | 21. K P to K 6th | P takes P |
| 3. K Kt to B 3rd | K takes P | 22. B takes P (ch) | K to R Sq |
| 4. Q P one | K Kt to K B 3rd | 23. Q takes K P (c) | Q takes Q |
| 5. K Kt takes P | K P two | 24. B takes Q | Q R to K 2nd |
| 6. Q to K 2nd | K B to K 3rd | 25. B to Q B 5th | Q R takes B |
| 7. K B to Q Kt 3rd | K B to Q 3rd | 26. B takes R | R to K 7th |
| 8. K B P two | Castles | 27. K to Kt 2nd | B to Q 5th (ch) |
| 9. Castles | K Q to K 2nd | 28. K to R 3rd | R takes Q B P |
| 10. Q Kt to Q B 3rd | K B to Q B 4th (ch) | 29. B to R 3rd | K R P one |
| 11. K R sq | K Q takes Kt | 30. K to K 4th | B takes K Kt P |
| 12. P takes Kt | K Kt to K 5th | 31. B to Q 6th | B to K B 3rd |
| 13. Q B to K B 4th | Q B P one | 32. K R P two | R takes Q R P |
| 14. Q Kt to K 4th (a) | Q P takes Kt | 33. K to K B 5th | K to K R 2nd |
| 15. K R takes Q B | K Kt to K B 7th (ch) | 34. K to K 6th | R to Q 7th |
| 16. R takes Kt | K B takes R | 35. R to K B 3rd | Q R P two |
| 17. K B to Q Kt 3rd | K P to K 6th | 36. K to Q 7th | R to Q B 7th |
| 18. Q R to K B sq | K Q to her 5th (b) | 37. Q P to Q 4th | B takes P |
| 19. K Kt P one | K R to Q sq | And White resigns. | |

(a) This is pretty, but not sound.

(b) A good move. If White plays Q B P one, Black takes Q P with P.

THE WAR IN CIRCASSIA.



SHAMIL, THE CIRCASSIAN CHIEF.

little opposition. He was, indeed, met at the confluence of the Tcherek and Zemisa by three Russian battalions under Colonel Baron Zacomelsky, but they were compelled to give way before his superior force. The Russian troops were not idle during all these operations, but they were out-maneuvred by the rapidity of Shamil's movements.

In the *Times*, of the 8th instant an extract from a letter, dated Tiflis, 20th

June, states that Shamil, whose preparations for a descent upon the Kabardians was reported to, but discredited by, the Russian General Freytag, appealed to the tribes, to "their love of arms, of danger, of pillage, and of booty," and was eminently successful. Twenty thousand of those reckless mountaineers placed themselves under his command, and rushing from their fastnesses on the Cossack settlements, made themselves masters of from sixteen to twenty of them;

seized and carried off the property, and the inhabitants they enclosed; but we regret to say, desirous to hasten their flight and secure their plunder, they put the greater portion of their unhappy prisoners to death. The booty was immense. Accompanying the Portrait of Shamil, and from the same authentic source, is a spirited scene of the assembling of the Russian troops, previous to entering the Caucasus.



ASSEMBLING OF RUSSIAN TROOPS FOR THE CAMPAIGN OF THE CAUCASUS.

THE POTATO MURRAIN.



FIG. 1.—THE POTATO PLANT.

as fatal to the Potato as Asiatic cholera to man; and still less that a few blotches on the leaves of this exotic plant were the heralds of political danger so extensive as to affect the whole commercial policy of England. Such, however, has been the course of events, and justifies our presenting our readers with some information on this singular subject.

The Potato plant is naturally found wild on the mountains of Chili, and perhaps of Peru, whence its cultivation has spread into surrounding countries. It is a species very like it, also occurs in the west of Mexico, in the province of Mechoacan, in a perfectly wild state. The stories current of its being a native of Virginia are undeserving of credit. Its present name was given it in consequence of its resemblance to the *Batatas*, now called Sweet Potato, which had been previously brought to the notice of Europeans. The latter is a kind of Bindweed; but our Potato belongs to the Nightshade order, and is poisonous in all parts except its tubers, which are what we eat.

In order to form a just idea of the nature of the Potato Disease, it is necessary that, in the first place, we should show how this plant grows, and reproduces itself.

If a Potato plant is dug up at this season it will be found to present such appearances as are shown at Fig. 1. There is in the first place the remains of an old Potato, or, as the farmers call it, *set* (a), from which all the growth has proceeded. Immediately rising from that is the main stem, or haulm, and above the ground level are the leaves and branches. Among the former, will be found a number of green berries, about as large as musket balls: they are the potato-apples or plums (e) and are filled with seeds which nature provides to multiply the Potato. If the plant produced nothing more than has now been mentioned, it would be of no use to mankind, for all these parts are more or less poisonous.

But it also pushes forth under-ground runners, which are a kind of branch, the ends of which swell out into great round or oblong bodies, which are filled with starch, and have the name of tubers. These (d and f), which are vulgarly called roots, are very different from the real roots (e), which are little threads, resembling hairs, and unable to swell out or form much starch in their inside. Every Potato plant is capable of producing many such tubers, and every tuber will bear to be cut into many pieces, each of which will become a new plant; and thus the quantity of produce which an acre of land will furnish, and the extent to which the crop may be easily propagated, are quite enormous. It is said that as much as forty thousand pounds weight of Potatoes has been obtained from an English acre of land; this would supply a man with ten pounds of food a day for nearly eleven years, if he could keep it; and hence has arisen the universal desire to cultivate the plant in all countries into which it has been introduced.



FIG. 5.—DISEASED STEM, NATURAL SIZE.

It now, however, seems as if Providence had determined to arrest its further increase, for it has been lately attacked by a new disease, the nature of which is unknown, which speedily destroys the hopes of the farmer, and sometimes even converts whole fields of Potatoes into a mass of corruption within a few hours. What is very remarkable is, that the most healthy and vigorous Potato-fields are those which are destroyed most rapidly. Not a sign of the disease may be visible to-day; to-morrow the leaves may be seen withered, black, and half putrid; and

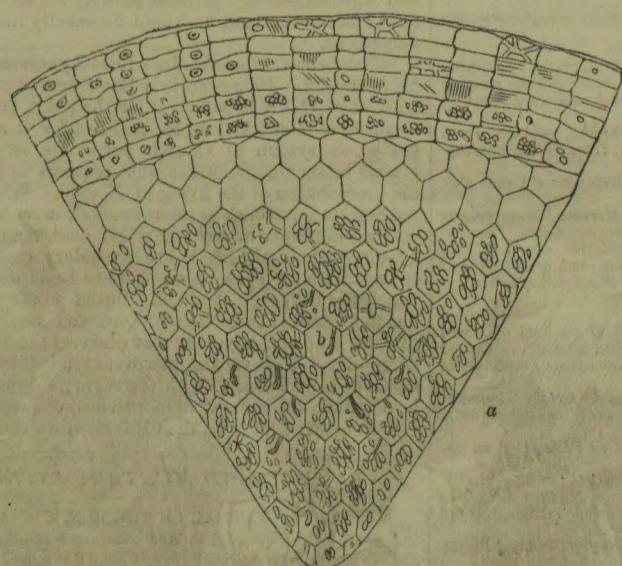


FIG. 2.—MAGNIFIED VIEW OF A SLICE OF A RIFE POTATO.

NEVER was witnessed a more important result, springing from a seemingly insignificant beginning, than has been presented by the disease now ravaging the Potato-fields of all quarters of the earth. No one could have imagined that a rot which appeared in this crop in the island of St. Helena, in the year 1840, was the "small speck on the horizon" which would become the forerunner of a calamity



FIG. 6.—SECTION OF A POTATO, SHOWING THE DISEASE IN PROGRESS.

that 4,000,000 of Irish peasants feed almost exclusively upon Potatoes, and the destruction of any considerable quantity of their only food could not be regarded otherwise than as a formidable national calamity. By the beginning of November half the crop was estimated to have been destroyed, or rendered unfit for human food. On the Continent, the loss had been even more severe; so that, in many places, the export of food was prohibited; the Dutch and Belgian Governments



FIG. 3.—BLOTTCHES ON A POTATO LEAF.—a, UPPER SIDE; b, UNDER SIDE.



FIG. 4.—THE BOTRYOTINIA INFESTANS, VERY HIGHLY MAGNIFIED.

were so much alarmed that they directed agents to purchase rice in London, and their operations were such as to double the price of that kind of grain in a single week.

What the amount of loss may really have been, it seems impossible to ascertain with accuracy or even probability. It has been estimated at £18,000,000 for the United Kingdom; Professor Lindley has computed it to have been £3,500,000 for Ireland alone.

Whatever the past fact may have been, it is certain that the injury sustained this year is very much more considerable, perhaps twice as great, for many new districts are attacked, no old ones are spared, and the destruction is in all cases more extensive.

The real cause of this sudden visitation is unknown. Some have ascribed it to the ungenial season of 1845, and that has been the prevalent idea; others have fancied that the life of the Potato is wearing out; many believe in electrical agency, and talk of blue lights seen at night playing over the doomed Potato grounds; insects, worms, parasitical fungi, night frosts, vegetable cholera, all have in turn had their advocates; and, as usually happens, those who have the smallest knowledge of the facts conceive themselves most capable of explaining the cause.

It is sufficient to say that none of the Scientific Commissions which have been issued by European Governments have ventured to pronounce any opinion on the subject; and the Editor of the *Gardeners' Chronicle*, in which the whole subject has, from the first outbreak, been most carefully discussed, still declares that the disease is beyond the reach of explanation.

But, although the cause is unknown, the symptoms have become too familiar. In all cases, the leaves become black and soft, in roundish patches; and, quickly after, the tubers change here and there to a brown substance which resembles a decayed apple, and eats into their centre; in some instances, especially in warm, damp places, this is followed by a putrid decomposition, accompanied by an indescribably offensive smell; in others, it is not more disagreeable than a rotten apple. It is very remarkable that this decay injures the starch in no considerable degree: so that, by mere grinding and washing, it may be extracted from the most decayed Potatoes, cleaned, and used for food. This led a noble Lord in the House of Commons, more remarkable for zeal than intelligence, to assert that a rotten Potato had been changed into starch!

It is not, however, in the leaf that this curious disease really begins. Weeks before there is any sign above ground, the foundation of the mischief is laid, by the appearance of a brown blotch on the young stem, just above the old set. This is shown at Fig. 1 (c), and invariably precedes every other symptom, as was first pointed out by Professor Lindley. The writer of this has examined hundreds of cases, without in any instance finding an exception to the rule. It seems as if the old tuber contained the germ of some affection, or some undiscernible deleterious matter, which acted upon the young stem just after it began to push, and that this was by degrees communicated through the subtle tubes of the stem, and by degrees, corrupted the juices of the leaves.

Be this as it may, the blotches of the leaves are instantly assailed by countless myriads of a minute parasitical plant, called *Botrytis infestans*, similar to those which mildew corn and other crops, which seems to be as constant a follower of the Potato disease as the Jackal of the Lion. A very full account of this plant has been given by the Rev. Mr. Berkeley, of whose drawing in the Horticultural Society's Journal we have availed ourselves in the accompanying Illustrations. When the blotches are first examined nothing perhaps will be seen; but if their underside is steadily looked at for a minute, especially when held a little obliquely, by degrees the eye will observe a minute grey mouldiness on the edges of the blotch, especially beyond them. The mouldiness is the parasite; it has a spawn like a mushroom, which it insinuates among the cells of which the leaf consists, and it finally emerges by the breathing pores of the plant. (See Fig. 4.) In order to gain a just idea of this curious vegetable, the reader must imagine himself to be looking through one of those solar microscopes which are used in public exhibition rooms, and magnify everything enormously. He will then perceive a green surface, which looks like a fair meadow, upon which rises a forest of trees with branches like glass, and every one of them tipped with a hollow glittering globe containing powder, which escapes from time to time in a cloud. (Fig. 4.) The meadow is the surface of the leaf, the fruit is the parasite, the globe is its seed-vessel, the powder its seeds; while the largest dimensions of this marvellous creation are smaller than the finest cobweb.

Some naturalists believe that this "parasite" causes the disease; all that we, however, can venture to say is, that if it appears to be in some way or other connected with it. Acting upon that opinion, Professor Morren, of Liège, very early in 1845, recommended the stems and leaves to be pulled up and removed from the tainted fields; he thinking that if the parasites were removed, the tubers would not be injured by it. The practice has been to a small extent adopted in France and this country; and, in the opinion of good judges, with decided advantage; we fear, however, that more experience must be had before it will be safe to recommend it as a certain cure. Should it prove to be so, it will not necessarily follow that the disease is caused by the fungus; it may only show that the presence of a diseased stem is likely to cause the tubers also to be tainted.

That the calamity, whose nature has thus been explained, must be productive of very great distress, will be admitted on all hands. We, however, believe that it will be followed by greater advantages; for the plant, whose existence is thus threatened, is one of the most worthless of all known food: three-quarters of it are mere water, and the other quarter is hardly able, of itself, to sustain animal life. The very facility of producing it has been a curse to Ireland, which all thinking men will be anxious to see removed.

EXPLANATION OF THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

FIG. 1. General view of the Potato Plant, its roots, leaves, tubers, and apples (or fruit); *a*, the old set or tuber; *b*, the first stem that is thrown up by *a*; *c*, the place where the disease first breaks out; *d*, the young tubers forming at the end of underground branches, resembling roots; *e*, true roots; *f*, full grown tubers; *g*, the same, diseased; *h*, the disease, as it first appears on the leaves; *i*, the blotches found at a later period on the stem; *k*, the apple, or real fruit, containing the seeds: this is also diseased.

FIG. 2. A magnified view of a slice of a small wedge of a ripe Potato, as seen under the microscope. It resembles honeycomb, the cells of which contain the starch in the form of oval grains at *a*; at *b*, are seen little seedlings of the Potato *Botrytis*, just beginning to grow.

FIG. 3. The blotches on the Potato leaf, of their natural size. *a* shows the upper side, on which there is no mouldiness; *b* presents the under side, with white spots, which indicates the presence of the mould.

FIG. 4. The *Botrytis infestans*, very highly magnified, together with a bit of a leaf, out of which it is growing. Among the cells of the latter its spawn will be seen branching in various directions.

FIG. 5. A diseased stem, natural size, with the lower leaves dead, and the upper attacked by the disease. Here the blotches on the stem are running into the state of gangrene.

FIG. 6. The section of a Potato, natural size, showing the disease in progress.

THE POTATO CROP, 1846.

Alas! the foul and fatal blight,
Infesting Raleigh's grateful root,
Blasting the fields of verdure bright,
That waved o'er Erin's favourite fruit.
The peasant's cherishing hope is gone,
His little garden's pride is o'er,
Famine and Plague now scowl upon
Hibernia's fair and fertile shore.

Yet, well the statesman's eye foresaw
The monster evil; well his heart
Felt how unjust must be the law,
That starves the cot, and chains the mart.

Boldly the patriot-path he trod,
Through obloquy, reproach, and scorn—
His sole reward the smile of God,
And blessings of the yet unborn.

And what can equal that reward?
Not all the gold-mines of Peru!

When black and blighted lies the sword,
Aid hastens o'er the billows blue;
Employment gives the peasant bread,
Gives hope and virtue. Therefore,
bless'd

And honoured be the heart and head
Which cheer the humble and oppress'd.

COURT AND HAUT T'CN.

PRINCE ALBERT'S BIRTHDAY.—Wednesday being the anniversary of Prince Albert's natal day, on which his Royal Highness completed his twenty-seventh year, it was observed with the usual demonstrations of loyalty. At one o'clock, the Park and Tower guns were fired; and, in the evening, the Royal tradesmen illuminated their houses.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL.—Lord John Russell has taken a residence for the season, near Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire, and it is now being prepared for the reception of his Lordship and family.

PUBLIC DINNERS AT WINDSOR TO CELEBRATE PRINCE ALBERT'S BIRTHDAY.—At the Public Dinner, which took place on Thursday evening, at the Town Hall, in honour of the birthday of the Prince Consort, there were upwards of 70 gentlemen present, including Colonel Reid and Ralph Neville, Esq. (the Members for the Borough), the Dean of Windsor, the Rev. Mr. Gould, several of the municipal authorities, and about twenty from London, the friends of many of the Royal tradesmen in the town. The proceedings, which had concluded shortly after nine o'clock, passed off very agreeably.—The public dinner at the Royal Adelaide Hotel, to celebrate the same event, was attended by nearly ninety of the principal inhabitants, and tradesmen connected with the Court. The chair was taken by Mr. Minton, Purveyor to the Queen. Appropriate toasts, interspersed with music and singing, were given, and the numerous party did not break up until past midnight. In the course of the evening, there was a grand pyrotechnic display in the gardens of the Hotel.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, Aug. 30.—12th Sunday after Trinity.
MONDAY, 31.—Length of Day, 13h. 36m.
TUESDAY, Sept. 1.—Partridge Shooting begins.—St. Giles.
WEDNESDAY, 2.—Great Fire of London, 1666.
THURSDAY, 3.—Oliver Cromwell died, 1658.—Riots at Oxford, 1830.
FRIDAY, 4.—Riots at Manchester, 1830.
SATURDAY, 5.—Mars rises at 5h. 26m. a.m., and sets at 6h. 48m. p.m.

HIGH WATER at London-bridge for the Week ending September 5.

| M. | A. | M. | M. | A. | M. | A. | M. | A. | M. | A. | M. |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| h. m. |
| 7 52 | 8 30 | 9 13 | 9 56 | 10 37 | 11 20 | 11 54 | 0 0 | 25 | 0 54 | 1 21 | 1 43 |

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. H. F., Durham.—Tomlinson's "Student's Manual of Natural Philosophy" details some of the principal Instruments, but its date is 1838. One of the Useful Knowledge Society's Tracts, also, describes the Instruments. Dr. Arnott has not yet published the Second Part of the Second Volume of his "Elements of Physics."

St. Bartholomew (two intersected equilateral triangles) is referred to Mr. Ballantine's "Treatise on Painted Glass." We perfectly appreciate our Correspondent's "good feeling."

G. D., Ramsgate.—The tenant must repair.

A Constant Subscriber, Ramsgate.—"The Handbook to Paris" is published by Strange, Paternoster-row.

A Constant Subscriber, Bonchurch.—It is very common, after the commencement of the Gospel, for the people to say "Glory be to Thee, O Lord;" but this response has no Rubrical authority, though it is as old as St. Chrysostom, and was inserted in the First Book of King Edvard. (Walker's Elementa Liturgica.)

"Our Belfast Correspondent" might recollect the national a age—

"He who gives all,
Gives none at all."

A near translation of Eutropius, no very great writer—

"Ut qui plurimum, minimumque tradunt."

Context is generally the best interpreter.

"Agyrēus" must very well know that, in the Greek language, several verbs dressed in a neutral or passive garb bear universally an active signification. There is only one Aorist, the historical tense; and, whatever Schrevelius or other Lexicographers may say to the contrary, *Xανθηρωματις* is, on the face of it, very bad Greek.

"A Constant Reader" is thanked for the hint; but the Screw Pile named is not a novelty in Engineering.

A. A. L., Kennington.—Declined.

R. Melesford.—"Knight's Journey-Book of Derbyshire"; or, a more copious work, "The Gem of the Peak."

L. B., Pall Mall, is thanked for the Portrait.

"A Beginner" will find "Blazam's Principles of Gothic Ecclesiastical Architecture" to be an excellent work.

A Weekly Contributor" is thanked.

H., Newchurch, is thanked; but, we have already engraved the Emperor of Russia's Yacht.

A Young Lady.—We fear that we cannot entertain the proposition.

"Lives on the Dying Soldier."—We have not room.

Nihii, Jersey, will, perhaps, repeat the question.

X. F. Z., St. Leonard's, may claim the entire return of the Railway Deposits, if it can be proved that any names have been fraudulently used.

G. B. J.—In a former Number of our Journal, we gave full particulars of the "Cockade." Custom, we believe, confines its usage to the Servants of those holding either a Military or Naval commission.

J. M.—We do not know where to direct our Correspondent to apply for the Baptismal Register of Mr. Plumer Ward. His father, John Ward, Esq., having resided almost all his life in Spain, and not having settled in England before 1782, it is probable that the distinguished author of "Tremaine" was by birth a Spaniard. A letter directed to "H. G. Ward, Esq., M.P., Admiralty, London," would, no doubt, obtain the desired information.

Querist.—"J. H." Aberystwyth.—D. B., Cookstown.—We will, next week, give the desired Answer.

A Gentleman in Black.—It is not lawful to marry a deceased wife's sister: and, consequently, all children born from such union would be illegitimate, and could not inherit property.

R. Z.—The restoration of estates does not follow the restoration of attained titles. The Dukedom of Wharton, having become extinct by the death without issue of the celebrated and eccentric Peer of the reign of George the First, could not be restored. The Barony of Wharton, however, is still existant, and might be conferred by the Crown on any one of the coheirs, who are the Marquis of Cholmondeley, Lord Willoughby de Eresby, Charles Kemey Tynte, Esq., of Halswell, in the county of Somerset, and Mr. Baillie Cochrane, the late M.P. for Weymouth.

J. D., Toulouse.—The letter and contents have been forwarded to your News-Agent at Birmingham, with whom you had better communicate. The Numbers required will cost 1s.: they cannot be sent by post.

G. W. B., London Wall.—Mr. Macready first appeared in London, as Orestes, in "The Distressed Mother," in the year 1816.

Θεοφίλος.—Monumental Brass Rubbers may be had of Mr. Bell, next St. Dunstan's Church, Fleet-street.

A Constant Subscriber, Bonchurch.—A black hood, lined with blue, worn by an Oxford man, denotes him to be B.C.L.

Kralé will, perhaps, send us a Sketch of the Festival. We have already engraved Buckingham Palace.

J. D.—By the Act I Geo. IV., c. 46, each Partner in a Joint Stock Bank is individually liable for the entire debts and engagements of the Company.

H. E. S.—A Bill must be read three times in both Houses of Parliament before it passes into a law.

Fitzrog.—Individuals found employed in unentered excise manufactories are severally liable to a penalty of £30 for the first offence.

F. W., Watford, has not stated the nature of the property.

A Bristol Subscriber" will require a passport, to be obtained, gratis, by applying at the Belgian Legation, 9a, Weymouth-street, Portland-place; and the passport will be delivered on the following day. Several cheap Guides and Maps have been published; or, see "Monteith's Foreign Railways."

An Old Subscriber.—A letter for Mr. Sheridan Knowles will, probably, reach him, if it be addressed to the Dramatic Authors' Society, 1, Trinity-place, Charing-cross; or, to care of Mr. Mozon, Dover-street, Piccadilly.

A Constant Reader," Tredegar.—R. S. V. P. denotes Reposer s'il vous plait ("Answer, if you please.")

A Subscriber."—See the valuable paper on the Potato Murrian, in our present Number.

M. B." is thanked; but we have not room.

J. W.—A varnish to fix Chalk or Pencil Drawings, may be made of Mastic, and dissolved in alcohol, in the proportion of 3 oz. of the gum to one pint of spirit.

Bathus"—We cannot assist our Correspondent.

G. C. H., Lisbon, is thanked.

Peregrine.—The best account of Cotehele, the ancient seat of the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, visited by her Majesty during her recent Cruise, is by Mr. N. Condy: it is a large folio, and very complete in its details and illustrations: the publishers in London are Day and Haghe.

J. D. F., Walkingford.—The words "legs," "arms," &c., in certain Almanacs, are pretended to denote the moon's influence upon those parts of the human body. It is now an exploded folly.

Cæsarmagnus.—A small level may be bought for a few shillings, of an Optician.

W. P., Falmouth.—Does our Correspondent refer to Floorcloth?

O., Liverpool.—We have received the information as to Military Schools in France, which shall be sent to our Correspondent by post, on our receiving his full address.

T. J. P. M." wishes to ascertain the colours, &c. of the Livery of the Royal Family of France.

C. D. S."—Apply to the Toxopholite Society, Inner Circle, Regent's Park.

G. M. P., Exeter.—We cannot speak as to the private Tontine in question by way of investment.

W. J. D. R." is thanked for the account of her Majesty's Visit to Guernsey.

REVIEWS of several New Books are in type, but are unavoidably deferred.

LIMERICK AGRICULTURAL SHOW.—We regret that the press of other subjects prevented our engraving the Sketches of the above Event, prepared for our Journal by Mr. Mahony, of Cork.

Our Subscribers and the Public are apprised that, from this date,

POSTSCRIPT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

This day having been fixed upon for the prorogation of Parliament, the Lords Commissioners took their seats at three o'clock, when Sir Augustus Clifford, the Usher of the Black Rod, summoned the House of Commons to hear the Royal Assent given to various bills recently passed.

The Commissioners were, the Lord Chancellor, the Marquis of Lansdowne, Earl Spencer, the Earl of Minto, and Lord Campbell.

The Lord CHANCELLOR then read her Majesty's most gracious Speech, which will be found in another column.

At the conclusion of the Speech the Commission for the Prorogation was read, and the Lord Chancellor, in the terms of the Commission, then declared Parliament to be Prorogued until Wednesday, the 4th day of November next.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

The Speaker took the chair at three o'clock.

NEW WAIT.—A new writ was ordered for Derby, in the room of Mr. Strutt, appointed one of the Commissioners of the Railway Board.

In answer to a question by Mr. P. Borthwick, Lord J. RUSSELL said he could not at present state what course the Government would adopt with respect to the report of the Committee on the Andover Union; but he considered it would be necessary to institute some general measure of inquiry respecting the Poor-laws; and, if a motion for a Committee on that subject were brought forward next Session, he could promise that it would not be opposed by the Government.

At three o'clock Sir A. Clifford, Usher of the Black Rod, appeared at the table, and summoned the House to the House of Lords to hear the Royal Speech read on the prorogation of Parliament. The Speaker and the members present immediately left the house. On their return, the SPEAKER read her Majesty's most gracious Speech, the members standing round the table, after which the House immediately adjourned, and the session closed.

RETURN OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN DOWAGER.—Yesterday (Friday) forenoon her Majesty the Queen Dowager arrived in town from the Continent, in company with the Princess William of Prussia, who, it is understood, will be the guest of her Majesty during her sojourn in this country. The Royal party embarked at Rotterdam on Thursday evening, at seven o'clock, in the *Black Eagle* steamer, commanded by Mr. Cook, R.N., and arrived at Woolwich at half-past eleven o'clock yesterday forenoon, after a pleasant voyage. Her Majesty and the Princess were received by Sir Thomas Downman, commandant of the garrison, and by a host of naval and military officers. The Earl Home, and the Earl of Denbigh, of her Majesty's household, were in attendance, as was the Chevalier Bunsen, the Prussian Minister. On her Majesty's disembarking, the batteries fired a Royal salute, and the three bands in attendance, viz., those of the Royal Horse Artillery, Foot Artillery, and Royal Marines played several national airs. The passage leading from the stairs which the party ascended was covered with green cloth, and guarded on either side by detachments of the Marines and Foot Artillery, the Horse being stationed at the Ya'd gate. Her Majesty, the Princess, and Viscountess Barrington, having entered one of the Royal carriages, proceeded direct to Marlborough House, the others following. The Viscountess Barrington was Lady in Waiting to the Queen Dowager. Several fashionably attired ladies witnessed the arrival of the Royal party. The Royal standard floated from the usual points, and the scene, in every respect a brilliant one, was much heightened in splendour by the propitious weather. The workmen, labourers, &c., employed in the establishment, received a half holiday in honour of the event, and the bells of the surrounding churches rang merry peals at intervals throughout the day.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

PORTUGAL.—Accounts from Lisbon to the 20th inst. have reached town to-day. There seemed to be no further apprehension of an invasion on the part of Spain, the Spanish troops having retired from the frontier, in consequence of a strong remonstrance from the Portuguese Minister at Madrid. The monetary crisis had not abated.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

THE SANATORY CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

A meeting of the inhabitants of the city of Westminster and its vicinity was held on Monday evening, at the Literary, Scientific, and Mechanics' Institution, Westminster, for the purpose of devising means for improving the sanitary condition of the city, and more especially the localities and dwellings of the poor.

Mr. Charles Cochrane, President of the National Philanthropic Institution, was called to the chair.

The Chairman said the amount of privation and human suffering which the poor were liable to in consequence of the absence of ventilation and adequate room, was fruitful to contemplate. It could scarcely be conceived by those who were unaccustomed to certain localities, that so much human wretchedness could exist without obtruding itself more upon the attention of the public.

Several gentlemen subsequently addressed the meeting, and resolutions to the following effect were agreed upon:—That the thanks of the meeting be given to Lord Morpeth, for bringing a bill into Parliament to let Crown lands on reduced terms to encourage the building of commodious and healthy dwellings for the poor; that the present sanitary condition of the poorer localities of the city of Westminster was truly deplorable; that the dwellings of the poor were crowded and ill-ventilated; that the sewerage and cleansing of the streets were very defective, and the supply of water imperfect and scanty; that the parochial authorities of the city be requested to remedy the foregoing evils, at the expense of their respective parishes, particularly with regard to imperfect sewerage; that the streets be washed twice a week; that lime be given gratis to the poor to whitewash their rooms; that the streets, courts, and alleys be regularly cleansed, and supplied with an abundance of water.

The following resolution was also passed unanimously:—“That the cordial thanks of this meeting are eminently due to the press for the deep interest evinced in the improvement of the sanitary condition of the metropolis.”

BIRTHS AND DEATHS IN THE METROPOLIS.—The number of deaths registered during the week ending on Saturday, August 22, was 902, of which 422 were those of females. This is above the average of the corresponding weeks during the last five summers by no more than four, whilst it is below the weekly average of deaths for the same number of years by 66. The births during the week were of exactly the same number of each sex, namely, 639, making an increase in the population of 1278.

BATHS AND WASH-HOUSES FOR THE LABOURING CLASSES.—It appears from a return, that from the 3rd instant (the opening day of the establishment situate in George-street, Hampstead-road) up to the 22nd, upwards of 9613 persons have availed themselves of the facilities afforded; and, owing to the insufficient accommodation, between 200 and 300 persons have been daily refused, or application for baths.

DANGEROUS CONDITION OF WESTMINSTER BRIDGE.—On Tuesday afternoon considerable alarm was created amongst the workmen employed on Westminster Bridge, by the sudden cracking of the crown of one of the arches of that structure. Upon making an inspection, it was found that the roadway of the bridge, as well as a portion of the foot pavement, had opened very considerably, and the carriage way, a short distance towards the centre, had to all appearance sunk several inches. Intelligence was quickly forwarded to the proper authorities, and during the same night the following notice was issued:—“Johnion, Mayor.—Notice is hereby given, that the navigation through the centre, and the two next arches of Westminster Bridge, towards the Surrey side of the river is stopped by order of the Lord Mayor. (Signed) Nathaniel Saunders, sub-conservator and water bailiff. Mansion House, August 25, 1846.” Whilst the men were at work on Wednesday afternoon, two large pieces of stone slipped from their level and again caused much confusion. The men, fearful that the arch was about to fall, got away, and it was some time before they were satisfied that their work was attended with safety. An extra number of workpeople was put on to the bridge during the afternoon, and, with the assistance of the regular hands, the wooden palisading on the upper side of the bridge was removed, and large poles were fixed on either side so as to strengthen the part that had given way. The dangerous arches are now properly braced and protected.

SINKING OF A RAILWAY EMBANKMENT.—Some curious phenomena have occurred on the works of the Ipswich and Bury Railway, at Stowmarket. For the last two months, immense quantities of dilatant clay have been deposited, without intermission, at one spot, about 200 yards on the westward side of the proposed station, and yet the works are no forwarder! It has all sunk into an immense bog, and the field on each side, after being gradually raised, has been divided by large and deep fissures, and a great portion of its peaty structure has turned over and fallen into the line where the first embankment was thrown up, but which has long since disappeared, leaving fourteen feet of water on its surface for a distance of about fifty yards! On the Bury side of the town, things have a similar unfavourable aspect. After great difficulty in finding a bottom, which was only done by driving in immense piles, a wooden bridge was erected, and the earth deposited for about 30 or 40 yards beyond it. The earth, however, has all sunk, and the bridge itself presents a triangular arch, from the sinking of the supporters at each end, while the sunken earth is covered with a deep pool of water, and the ground on each side has been raised, fissured, and turned partially over into the gulf. How deep the bog may extend is, of course, a matter of conjecture, although, from the immense quantity of clay, &c., which has been swallowed up, it must be considerable. Mr. Bedingfield, the surgeon, of Stowmarket, very narrowly escaped losing his life last week, in going to see the extraordinary phenomena above described. About 100 yards from the spot, but in the line which the embankment is to traverse, he slipped into a ditch which it appears contained no less than seventeen feet of mud. He was alone, and was only saved by catching hold of the grass on the bank, by which he held until two persons, who had previously observed him, and were surprised at his sudden disappearance, came up, and found him buried up to his neck in the mud, from which perilous position he was extricated without material injury. A pleasant prospect this for the contractor for the railway!

The following plan for saving potatoes affected by the disease was tried with success, last season, in the neighbourhood of Devizes:—“The haulm was removed from the ground before the disease had communicated to the tubers, *not by cutting it*, but by pulling it away from the roots; the land was then pressed down firmly, and afterwards earthed up in ridges, to preserve the potatoes from the rain, till they were dug at the usual period of the year. One half of the land was treated in this manner, and the crop was saved; on the remainder it was almost entirely lost.”

NATIONAL SPORTS.

A CONTEMPORARY, whose columns are consecrated to the consideration of our popular pastimes, has just now a series of articles current on the Decay of Old English Sports. Be it our office to deal with a more grateful theme—and, in offering to our public this brief treatise on the Growth of New English Diversions—

The bane and antidote are both before them.

Whatever may have been the recreations of our ancestors, now become parcel of the things that were, they can stand no comparison with that refinement in the Chase—whose rise and progress belong to the present century—a device of moral woodcraft, wherein, abandoning the pursuit of the lower animals, men make game of each other:—

The noblest quarry of mankind—is man.

This modern National Sport is called BETTING: the implements used in exercising it, are the odds; the district chiefly devoted to it, the metropolis. The cream of the country is the West End—the two great covers are Tattersall's and Limmer's. The former is hunted by day—the latter by night; and here is one important advantage which “odds-craft” enjoys over woodcraft—it is pursued through the twenty-four hours: indeed, the most favourable time for it is “the witching hour.” Everybody's eyes and ears are familiar with Tattersall's: it is a household word: you can't take up a paper, but it stares you in the face; and when you read in your Monday morning's *Herald*—“Latest Betting at Tattersall's”—it's only a polite way of quoting the business done the preceding afternoon—but that's a secret between us. The latter great game cover is less known: we proceed to a notice of it—first sacrificing a stanza to the *manes* of its departed keeper:—

O! weep for John Collins, late waiter at Limmer's,
At the corner of Conduit-street, Hanover-square,
Whose pet occupation was filling up brimmers
To solace young gentlemen laden with care,

The place of meeting here consists of an oblong chamber furnished with no carpet, probably because the practice is to stand upon the chairs, whence else, no doubt, it comes to pass that the custom is to sit upon the tables. The principal season of operations is during the summer months. Then, about midnight, may be seen some hundreds of sportsmen, for the most part well mounted—on the chairs and tables, as aforesaid—burning with impetuosity and extrinsic caloric. Lo! their natural heat has converted the saloon into an oven, at the door of which is stationed a blazing kitchen range, whereby they might supply you with barons of beef on the shortest notice. Libellers of the age! call ye these degenerate days, wherein the chivalry of England live for hours—best pace at such hot work as this? We tell thee, forty minutes with the fast ones at the coffee-room of Limmer's would have cooked the coolest of their grandfathers. Betting, abstractedly considered, does not seem good fun; but, as Shakespeare says—

There be some sports, though painful in themselves,
Delight in them sets forth.

Speculation belongs to this category—and if any one doubt us, let him attend an *auto-da-fé* at Limmer's: there will be one every evening till after Doncaster Races. He will there see excitement carried to the *pitch*, beyond which, “the force of fancy can no further go,” and by dint of a good constitution and Wenham ice, he may survive the experiment:.... All descriptions of wild animals coming under the denomination of vermin, we are told, have suffered much from the existing taste for game-preserving. Well, if badgers are on the wane, betters are in the crescent—a *quid pro quo*—at all events. Which of the two genera affords the best sport, may be a matter of opinion; but bagging the odds we have shown to be a capital diversion. Next week we purpose going into the details of this amusement, which the vulgar suppose to be the doctrine of chances, but which the better-informed know to be the philosophy of pastime. The latest of its problems will be found in Tattersall's list.

TATTERSALL'S.

MONDAY.—Very few St. Leger horses were in favour this afternoon; indeed, saving Brocardo, The Traverser, Fancy Boy, and Erin-go-Bragh, the market was decidedly downward. The movements embraced a change in the premiership, and the retrogression of Sir Tatton Sykes, Iago, and Pyrrhus the First. Poynot was friendless. Closing odds:—

LEAMINGTON STAKES.

| 4 to 1 agst Mongrel | ST. LEGER. | 5 to 1 agst Roderick |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 5 to 1 agst Brocardo | 10 to 1 agst Fancy Boy | 20 to 1 agst Poynton |
| 6 to 1 — Sir Tatton Sykes | 13 to 1 — Sting | 20 to 1 — Free Lance |
| (t) — Iago | 15 to 1 — Iago | 25 to 1 — Erin-go-bragh (t) |
| 7 to 1 — The Traverser (t) | 16 to 1 — Grimston | 33 to 1 — Mount Callan |
| | 1000 to 10 agst Romance (t) | |

THURSDAY.—The great feature of the betting this afternoon was the decline of Sir Tatton Sykes; 6, 7, and 8 to 1 was betted, to upwards of £1000; and it looked like “finding money” to lay against him. Brocardo also caught it; and an extraordinary anxiety was shown to lay against everything except the Traverser, Iago, and Poynot. In short, it was field-day for the bears. The Leamington Stakes was scarcely mentioned, but it transpired that by the rather sudden death of Mr. F. Ongley, Roderick was disqualified.

LEAMINGTON STAKES.

| 9 to 2 agst The Traverser | 15 to 1 agst Fancy Boy (t) | 20 to 1 agst Sting (t) |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 13 to 1 — Brocardo | 16 to 1 — Grimston | 30 to 1 — Erin-go-bragh (t) |
| 8 to 1 — Sir Tatton Sykes | 18 to 1 — Poynot | 33 to 1 — Pyrrhus the First |
| 12 to 1 — Iago | 20 to 1 — Free Lance (t) | 50 to 1 — Mount Callan |
| | 1000 to 20 agst Joanna colt. | |

EGHAM RACES.—TUESDAY.

The Magna Charta Stakes of 10 sovs each, with 25 added, for three-year-old colts, 8st 7lb; and fillies, 8st 4lb. Winners of any stakes of £100 each 7lb extra; of the Derby, 10lb extra. Maidens at starting allowed 5lb. Old mile. 7 subs.

Sir G. Heathcote's Japan .. . (Chapple) 1
Cornet Bathayany's Mustee .. . (Mann) 2

Match, £100, h ft, weight for age; one mile.—Mr. Dyson's Devil-to-pay, 5 yrs (Nat), beat Mr. Oldaker's The Witch. 6 to 4 on Devil-to-pay, who won as liked.

The Gold Cup of £120 (specie), by subscribers of 10 sovs each; the second to save his stake, and the winner to be sold for £400; 3-year-olds, 7st; 4 yrs, 8st 7lb; 5 yrs, 9st; 6 yrs and aged, 9st 3lb; mares, &c., allowed 3lb. Two miles. 12 subscribers.

Mr. John Day's Bourton .. . (A. Day) 1
Lord Exeter's Sister to Pergularia .. . (Petit) 2

The race was between the first two all the way, Bourton making all the running, and winning rather cleverly by half a length.

Plate of £40, given by the County Members, added to a Sweepstakes of 5 sovs each; 3 yrs-old, 6st 12lb; 4 yrs, 8st 7lb; 5 yrs, 9st; 6 yrs and aged, 9st 3lb; mares, &c., allowed 3lb. The winner to be sold for £200. Heats, 2 miles. 3 subs.

Sir S. Spry's f by Sir Hercules, out of Taglioni, 4 yrs (Wakefield) 1
Count Bathayany's Master Stepney, 4 yrs .. . 2 dr

WEDNESDAY.

The weather was extremely favourable, and the attendance not so large perhaps as we were in the habit of meeting when Egham rejoiced in Royal patronage, but still numerous and fashionable.

Sweepstakes of 10 sovs each, with 25 added; for two-yr-old colts, 8st 7lb; and fillies, 8st 4lb; winners once 4lb, twice 7lb extra. T.Y.C. Seven subs.

Baron Rothschild's The Daughter of the Star .. . (H. Bell) 1
Sir G. Heathcote's br c by Liverpool, out of Carolina .. . (Chapple) 2

Mr. John Day's The Tartar .. . (A. Day) 3

The Tartar took a lead of three or four lengths, and made strong play to the distance, where the Carolina colt and the Baron's filly joined him, and the trio raced home together, the filly winning by a neck; the same between second and third; Pell-mell a bad fourth.

The Surrey and Middlesex Stakes, of 25 sovs each, 15 ft, and only 5 if declared, with 50 added. The winner of the Brighton Stakes, 7lb extra; of the Queen's Plate, at Brighton, or any other Handicap amounting to £100, 4lb extra. Two miles and a dis. 35 subs; 21 of whom declared.

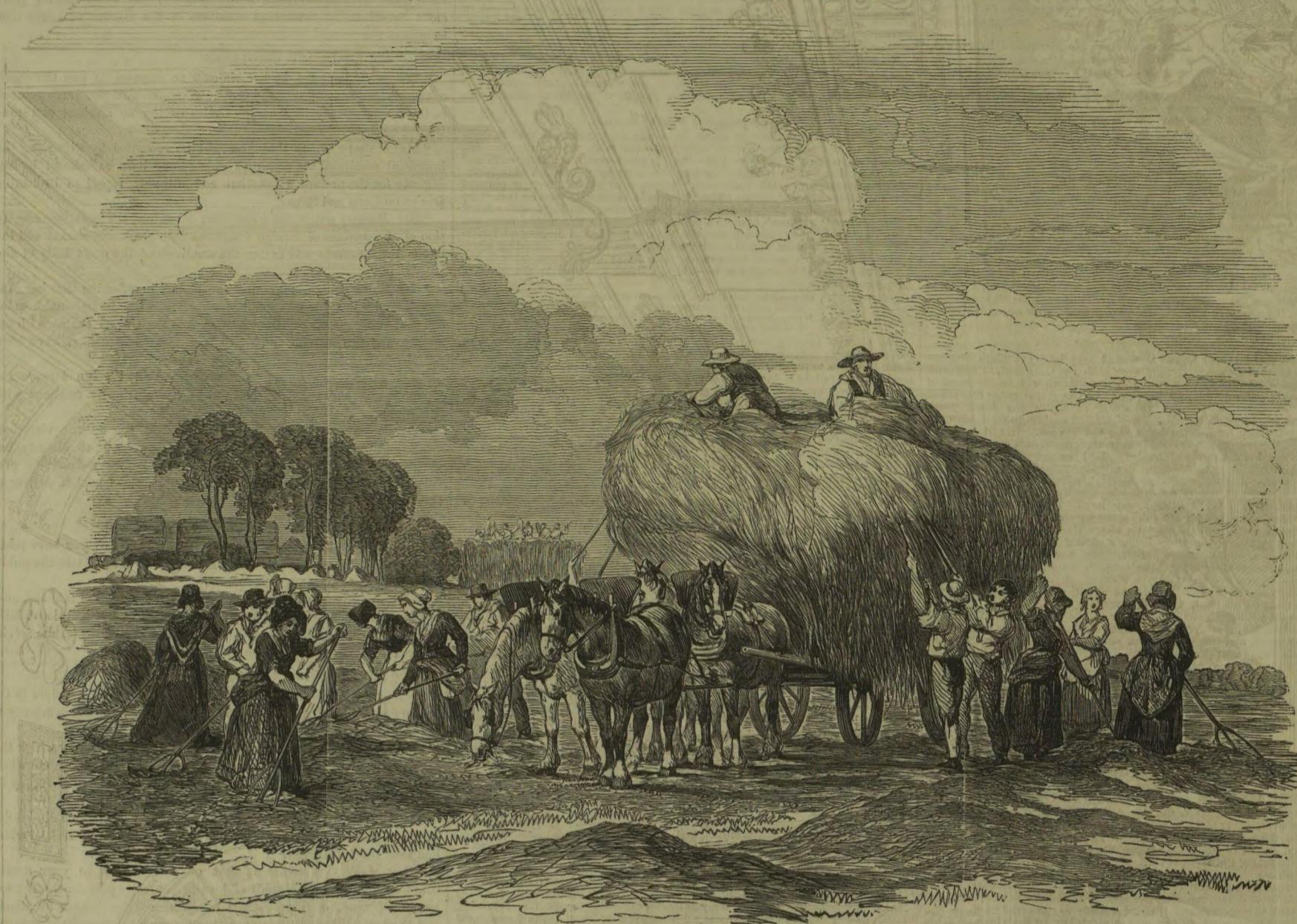
Mr. Ramsbottom's Pine-Apple, 6 yrs, 8st 7lb .. . (Sly) 1
Mr. Worley's Example, 5 yrs, 8st 3lb .. . (H. Bell) 2

Mr. S. Spry's f by Sir Hercules out of Taglioni, 4 yrs, 7st 10lb (Wakefield) 3

Mr. S. Scott's Mosque, aged, 8st 3lb .. . (Mann) 4

Mosque made the running, followed by Pine-Apple, the Taglioni filly third, and Example last. No change took place till they reached the distance; Mosque then gave way, and Pine-Apple went on with the running, was never afterwards headed, and won by half a length.

AGRICULTURAL PICTURES.



LINTON S.C.

HAY-HARVEST.—DRAWN BY DUNCAN.

To turn the swarth, the quiv'ring load to rear,
Or ply the busy rake, the land to clear.
Summer's light garb itself now cumb'rous grown,
Each hit thin doublet in the shade throws down;
Where oft the Mastiff skulks with half-shut eye,
And rouses at the stranger passing by;
Whilst unrestrain'd the social converse flows,
And every breast Love's powerful impulse knows,
And rival wits with more than rustic grace
Confess the presence of a pretty face.

Here, midst the boldest triumphs of her worth,
NATURE herself invites the REAPERS forth;

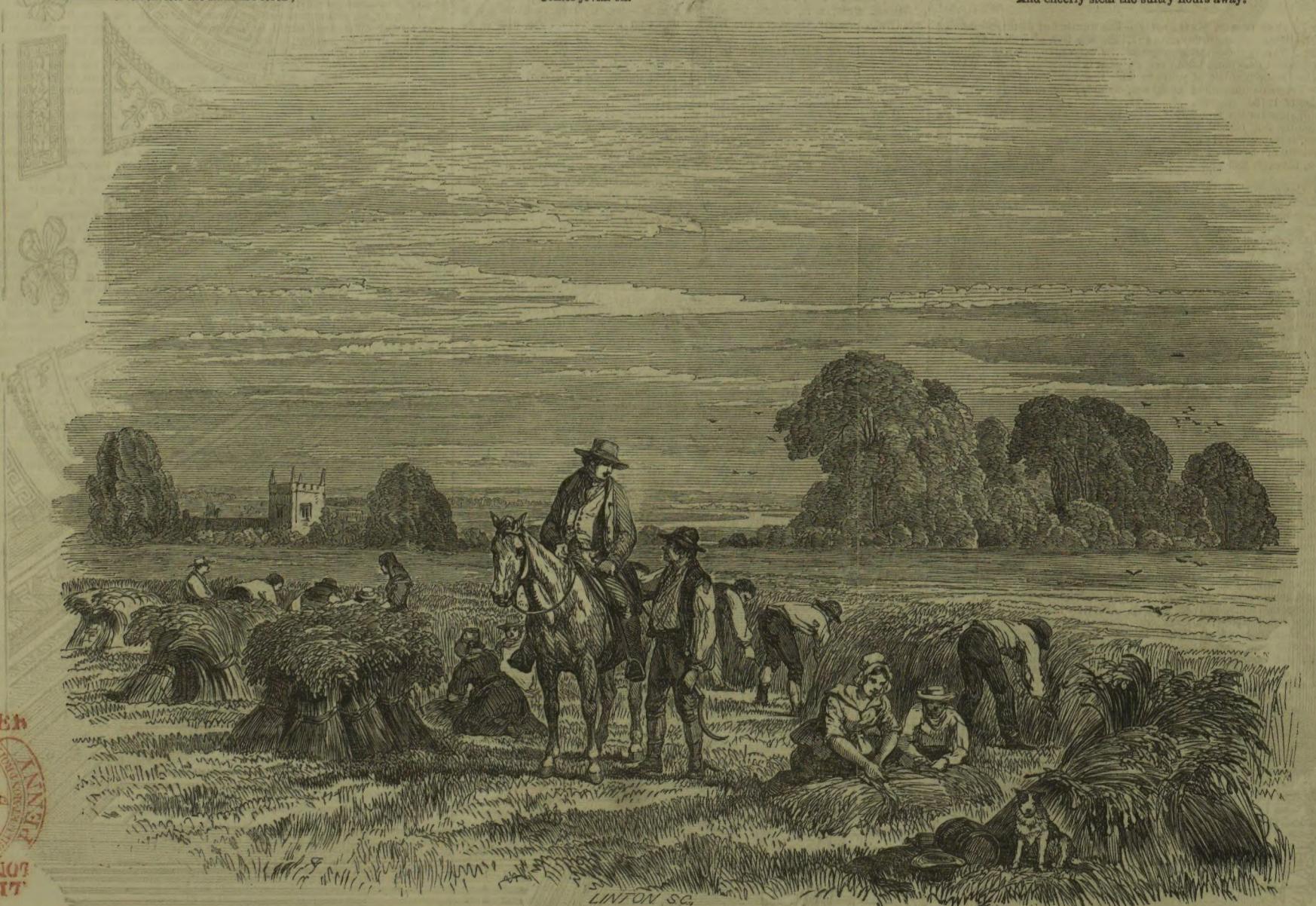
Dares the keen sickle from its twelvemonth's rest,
And gives that ardour which in every breast
From infancy to age alike appears,
When the first sheaf its plump top uprears.
No rake takes here what Heaven to all bestows—
Children of want, for you the bounty flows!
And every cottage from the plenteous store
Receives a burden lightly at its door.

The muse of Thomson sings—

Crown'd with the sickle, and the wheaten sheaf,
While Autumn, nodding o'er the yellow plain,
Comes jovial on.

* * * * *

Soon as the morning trembles o'er the sky,
And, unperceiv'd, unfolds the spreading day;
Before the ripen'd fields, the reapers stand
In fair array; each by the lass he loves,
To bear the rougher part, and mitigate
By nameless gentle offices her toil.
At once they stoop, and swell the lusty sheaves;
While, banded round and round, the rural talk,
The rural scandal, and the rural jest,
Fly hearty, to deceive the tedious time,
And cheerly steal the sultry hours away.



LINTON S.C.

WHEAT-HARVEST.—DRAWN BY DUNCAN.



THE BIRMINGHAM MUSICAL FESTIVAL.—THE GREAT MUSIC HALL.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

MUSIC.

THE BIRMINGHAM FESTIVAL.

(From our own Correspondent.)

BIRMINGHAM, Wednesday.

This meeting is always looked forward to with interest, as the exertions to secure the best singers, native and foreign, and to produce striking novelties have been manifested at various periods with great success. The Committee this year has been particularly active, and it is not their fault that they have not secured Jenny Lind, for tempting offers were made to her. The engagements of Grisi and Mario, and of Mendelssohn to conduct his second Oratorio, are evidence that no outlay has been spared to render the Festival of 1846 attractive. With the new work of "Elijah," more than ordinary pains have been taken. Whilst the local choruses have been practising, two rehearsals of the London singers and instrumentalists have been given at the Hanover-square Rooms. On Monday there was a full gathering of the forces, and in the evening and last night, pieces that were regarded as imperfect by the gifted composer, were again gone through. The band, chorus, and principal artists arrived by a special train on Sunday. The town filled on Monday rapidly with the visitors invited by the hospitable inhabitants. The nobility and gentry within a circle of fifty miles, come in daily by the railroads, and trains, for the convenience of the Concert-frequenter, depart at midnight. The ringing of bells ushered in the Festival yesterday, and the first performance took place at the Town Hall, where, by the way, all the schemes this year will be performed, the Theatre being only reserved for the Dress Ball, on Friday night, terminating the triennial gathering. It is, of course, known that the profits go to the funds of the General Hospital, an admirable institution—so that Charity goes hand in hand with Music—a very charming coalition. The hotel keepers have manifested a desire to be less exacting; and this example will, no doubt, in the long run, be the best to be followed.

Haydn's "Creation" was well executed on the whole, although it was done without a single rehearsal; and Mr. Moscheles, who was Conductor, took the time so rapidly, that some choruses—especially that of the "Heavens are telling"—became almost dance music. The solo were assigned to Madame Caradori Allan, Miss Bassano, Mr. Hobbs, Mr. Lockey, Mr. Machin, Mr. Phillips, and Herr Staudigl. The music was too high for Miss Bassano, who, therefore, disappointed the expectations of her friends. If she cultivates her contralto, she will make a fine singer; but, as a soprano, she must fail. Caradori's style is still artless and finished, but her intonation is impaired. Hobbs was deservedly encored in the air "For native worth;" he never sang with more taste and feeling. Mr. Lockey is a rising tenor; he has a good organ, but lacks passion. Machin and Phillips both sustained their reputations as singers in the sacred school. Staudigl created an immense sensation, and was called upon to repeat the air, "Now Heaven in fullest glory." After the Oratorio, there was a selection from the "Stabat Mater" of Rossini, Mario singing the "Cujus animam;" Grisi and Miss Bassano the duo, "Quis est homo;" Staudigl the air, "Pro peccatis;" and Grisi the "Inflammatus." The duo was encored—the voices of the fair vocalists blending beautifully; and Miss Bassano retrieved her laurels in the low notes. Grisi was in superb voice. The Hall was well attended, and the sale of tickets larger than is usual on a first day.

This morning Mendelssohn's "Elijah," conducted by himself, was the great source of attraction. The argument has been gleaned from Holy Scripture by the composer himself, and Mr. Bartholomew has adapted the English version. A more interesting subject could not have been selected. It comprises the departure of *Elijah* for Zarephath, the restoration of the child's life, the gathering of the Priests at Mount Carmel and their destruction, the opening of the Heavens, the descent of the rain, the flight of *Elijah* to the wilderness, the passing by of the Lord, the death of *Elijah* and prophetic declarations as to the advent of The Messiah.

Mendelssohn has made a great advance on "Paul" by "Elijah." His innovations are more daring, his choral effects more potent, his melodies more exhilarating. The orchestration is marvellously grand and impressive. The accompaniments are never ceasing—like Haydn, the picture is always in the band, and the vocal parts are chiefly accessory. Perhaps relief may be wanting, owing to this continued orchestral working, but the impetuosity is overwhelming. The music for the solo singers is for the most part allotted to the bass and contralto voices. It was a great opportunity for Staudigl in "Elijah," and he did not neglect it. Never did this gifted artist gain greater glory. His duties were most onerous and arduous; he had a series of recitations and airs, besides a large share in the concerted pieces, of unprecedented responsibility. The quartet writing is rich in harmony, and the choruses colossal. Whilst the contrapuntal combinations display the highest erudition, dramatic effect has never been lost sight of. There are less of dry fugues and canons, and the symphonies are infinitely shorter than usual. We must refer our readers to the 17th and 18th chapters of the First Book of Kings to form some notion of the theme that Mendelssohn has grasped like a master-mind. Its magnitude has been adequately upheld. The contrasts between the sacred and secular subjects have been most judiciously preserved.

The execution of the new work was quite surprising. Every artist seemed inspired, and resolved to perform as if the result depended on individual exertion.

There were eight *encores*—four in each part. Mr. Lockey, the tenor, obtained the first, in the air, "Ye people, rend your hearts." The chorus, "Baal, we cry to thee," with its Pagan effects, was next in rotation. The quartet, "Regard thy servant's prayer," nicely sung by Madame Caradori, Miss Hawes, Mr. Hobbs, and Mr. Phillips, was the third; and the chorus finale of the first act, "Thanks be to God," the fourth. The fifth was the lovely chorus, "He watching over Israel;" the sixth, the air by Miss Hawes, "O, rest in the Lord;" the seventh was in Staudigl's air, "O Lord, I have heard of thee;" and the eighth *encore* was the quartet, "Oh! every one that thirsteth."

Mendelssohn was called for at the close of the Oratorio, and was more cheered even than on his entrance.

The Hall, this day, had a most animated aspect, as it was crowded in every part. The beautiful *toilettes* of the ladies harmonised exquisitely with the new decorations of the Hall. The blending of the colours is charming. The ceiling is divided into three large circles, and studded with rosettes and panels, painted blue and white, on a cream and chocolate ground alternately. The organ case has been splendidly embellished, and the pipes gilt, with scrolls. A judicious sprinkling of arabesques add to the beauty of the ceiling. The seats have been painted a dark mahogany, with red cushions. The ventilation has not been lost sight of in the improvements. The whole has been done under the directions of Mr. Crace, of London.

Lord Wrottesley (the President), the Earl of Dartmouth, Lord Sandys, Lord Leigh, Lord Ward, Sir A. Barnard, &c., have been present at the performances.

Nothing is talked of but the great success of the "Elijah;" and a wish has been expressed for a second performance.

BIRMINGHAM, Thursday Night.

The first Concert last evening was very well attended, and the Hall, lighted up with gas, had a magnificent appearance. The programme opened with Beethoven's Symphony in A No. 7, with the repeats cut out. It did not go well, as also Spohr's "Faust" Overture, owing to the Conductor's incapability. Indeed, the accompaniments to the vocal pieces were so disgracefully executed, owing to this cause, that a break down was nearly the result in many pieces. Moscheles has ruined himself as a Conductor by his exhibitions at this Festival. His best friends were dismayed at his palpable failure. There were six encores—Mario, in "Il mio tesoro," of Mozart; Grisi, in Bellini's "Qui la voce," and with Lablache, jun., in Mayer's comic duo, "Con pazienza;" the Misses Williams, in Macfarren's pretty duo, "Two Merry Gipsies;" Miss Hawes, in Arne's "Oh, too lovely;" and Herr Staudigl, in Handel's "Ruddier than the cherry." Webb's glee, "Discord, dire sister," was beautifully sung by Miss Hawes, and Messrs. Hobbs, Lockey, and Phillips. Miss Bassano gave Haydn's "Mermaid" delightfully. Mme. Caradori sung Donizetti's "L'amor suo" artistically. Mr. Moscheles played his "Recollections of Ireland" on the pianoforte, with orchestral accompaniments, splendidly. As a pianist and composer, he is great. There will be a treat to-night at the Second and Last Concert, in the duo between Mendelssohn and Moscheles on two pianos, and in the "Midsummer Night's Dream" music of the former. To-morrow morning is the last performance of Sacred Music. The scheme includes Beethoven's Mass in D in part;

Spohr's Hymn, "God, thou art great;" and a new Psalm, by Moscheles (the 93rd). Dr. Gauntlett will perform on the organ on this occasion, "The Harmonious Blacksmith" of Handel, and one of Bach's fugues. A Ball at the Theatre concludes the Festival. On Saturday, a Concert will be given in the same place, at which Grisi, Mario, F. Lablache, and John Parry will sing, and Benedict conduct.

The performance of "The Messiah" this morning was on the whole more satisfactory than that of "The Creation," a hint having been given to Moscheles that the traditions in taking the time would be preferred to his own crotchetts. Still the same degree of uncertainty prevailed as to his beat. The band and chorus exerted themselves strenuously. The "And the glory," "And he shall purify," "For unto us," "Let us break," &c., went unsteadily. The "Hallelujah," "All we like sheep," "Worthy is the Lamb," with the fugue "Amen," were better. Five encores were bestowed by the President, Lord Wrottesley, who gives the signal when the Vice-Presidents signify their gratification. Miss M. Williams obtained the first in the air "He shall feed his flock;" her sister Miss A. Williams coming in for another in the second part "His yoke is easy." Miss Hawes's pathetic delivery of the air, "He was despised" secured the third encore. Mme. Caradori received the fourth, in the air, "But Thou didst not leave his soul in Hell;" and Staudigl at last, in "The Trumpet shall sound," with Harper's obligato; but the latter was dead beat, and would not play the symphony the second time. Mr. Stempson officiated with ability at the Organ. The receipts were £2,500; and it is anticipated that the money received this Meeting will be greater than at any previous Festival. The largest on record was that of 1834, when the Hall was opened, amounting to £13,527. The weather has been splendid every day.

The number of executives amounts to about 400, of which 125 are instrumentalists and 272 choristers. Too much praise cannot be bestowed on the Stewards for their attention and politeness, and the police regulations were admirable. The streets, although thronged with vehicles and pedestrians, were quite free from confusion. The following is a list of the visitors:—The Earl of Bradford, the Earl of Dartmouth, the Earl of Aylesford, the Countess of Kilmorey, the Bishop of Worcester; Lords Wrottesley, Ingester, Hatherton, Southwell, Lyttelton, Leigh, Guernsey, and Calthorpe; Sir A. Barnard, Sir T. Winnington, Lady Cavendish, Lady Ward, Right Honourable W. Y. Peel, Sir E. Hartopp, Lady R. Carnac, Hon. Colonel Clive, Sir J. Cave, Sir E. Scott, the Deans of Lichfield and Worcester, the High Sheriff, G. Muntz, Esq., M.P., C. P. Adderley, Esq., M.P., E. J. Shirley, Esq., M.P., W. S. Dugdale, Esq., M.P., Mark Philips, Esq., M.P., Colonel Norton, Lieut.-Col. Thorne, J. F. Ledsam, Esq., the Chairman of the Committee, Sternfeld Bennett, and Charles Horsley, the Composers, the Countess of Hahn-Hahn, Professor Gesarius, of Halle Prussia, Herr Carl Engell, of Berlin, Benedict, &c., &c.

I shall be unable to supply you with details of to-morrow's doings, but next week I will give a general summary of this important meeting.

COUNTRY NEWS.

HURRICANE AT RUGBY.—On Thursday (last week), the neighbourhood of Rugby was visited by the most tremendous hurricane ever known in that locality. Upwards of 100 trees, many of them exceeding two yards in circumference, were snapped in two, whilst others were torn up by the roots, to the extent, in one line of country alone, of nearly two miles and a half. The damage in the neighbourhood is estimated at between £2000 and £3000. After lasting about three hours, the hurricane abated, apparently going in the direction of Kettering.

INCENDIARY FIRE IN ESSEX.—Last Sunday evening, a fire suddenly broke out upon the premises belonging to Mr. James Hill, known as Wenington Hall farms near Purfleet. There being a large pond of water on the ground, the engines were taken thither, and were, with as little delay as possible, set to work, and vast streams of water were discharged upon and into the blazing property, but without making any visible impression upon the flames; and rick after rick, and building after building, were destroyed. During the whole of Sunday night and Monday morning the engines were at work. From a survey which has been made, there is little doubt that the fire was the work of some incendiary. Mr. Hill is a man universally respected in the neighbourhood. His loss must be very considerable, and, unfortunately, he was only partially insured. Official Report of Damage:—"Sunday, August 23, half-past eight p.m., a fire broke out on the premises of Mr. Hill, farmer, situate at Wenington, near Purfleet, Essex, which destroyed one wheat rick, one barn filled with grain, one rick of rye, five more ricks of wheat, two stacks of pea haulm, two ricks of hay, one cart lodge, two barns, one straw shed, the chaise and carriage houses, the ox stalls, cow houses, and hurdle sheds, with a number of fat geese."

MURDERS AT LEEDS.—On Friday (last week), a double murder was perpetrated at Leeds, which caused considerable excitement. A man named William Walsham, a hawker of hardware, went to his house in the Old Post Office Yard, Kirkgate, in a state of intoxication. A quarrel between himself and wife ensued, and the latter, through his threats, left the house. He then began to beat his child in so cruel a manner that its cries attracted the attention of the neighbours; and two of them, named Elizabeth Smith and Catherine M'Loughlan, who are both the wives of pedlars, went into the house and attempted to interfere. Walsham, with a clasp-knife in his hand, attacked them in a most ferocious manner, and stabbed them very severely. The wounds inflicted upon Smith caused her death in two or three hours. M'Loughlan's wound was found to be of a serious character, and she was removed to the Infirmary, where she also died. At the Inquest, the Jury returned a verdict of Manslaughter against Walsham. Both women have left families of children, and the husband of M'Loughlan is at present a prisoner in Wakefield House of Correction, having been sent there for an assault.

IRELAND.

THE REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—At the weekly meeting of the Repeal Association, on Monday, Mr. O'Connell as usual made a speech about Repeal. He said there never was a better prospect for Repeal than at present. The Repealers were right, and their enemies were wrong, because the Repealers were determined to proceed on the basis of moral force, and on that alone. The late Government acted most basely in keeping back from the court and jury at the State Trials the principle on which the Repeal Association was founded. If that principle had been clearly shown to the court and jury, the prosecution could not have succeeded even with the aid of the *Nation*. The Young Irishers talked of using the sword—men who would be ready to look at a poker talking of using the sword. (Laughter.) He did not regret the secession of the Young Irishers, with the exception of Smith O'Brien; but they should do without even him, if he would not be a member of the Association on the principle of moral force. No man could be a member of the Association on any other grounds. If the Association admitted any other principle—the principle of physical force—it would be an illegal assembly, and all the members of it would be liable to be prosecuted for high treason. Away for ever with physical force! moral force alone would obtain what they wanted. He would not have consented to remain in that hall if physical force was asserted to. He had the felicity of knowing that the country was with him, from the humblest Repealer to the Hon. Cecil Lawless. Who would have supposed that Peel would have proclaimed the necessity of establishing perfect equality between England and Ireland? This from "Orange Peel," as they used to call him, and as he deserved to be called; but now they would Peel off the orange, and present him a new man to Ireland. Already they were getting some advantage. He would tell them he would support the Whigs while they did good to Ireland. Mr. O'Connell then referred to the law for the relief of the poor, which he lauded for its humanity. That measure was the first step towards a universal system of poor-laws, and that measure would be perpetuated, unless the gentry of Ireland joined him to repeal the Union. After some routine speech, the rent for the week was declared to be £133 16s.

EXTRAORDINARY CASE OF POISONING.—A most diabolical attempt to poison the entire family of Dr. Grattan, of Drummond House, county of Kildare, was made on the 17th instant. His eldest son, a lad of fifteen, died in consequence; and Mrs. Grattan, the four surviving children, and a servant-maid, are still in a very precarious condition. From the circumstances brought to light at the inquest, it would appear that Dr. Grattan, alarmed at the wide-spread failure of the potato crop, and anxious to make timely provision for the wants of his labourers, likely to be deprived, by this mysterious visitation, of much of their ordinary food, had a small supply of Indian meal brought from Dublin at his own cost, for the purpose of introducing it among them, and familiarizing them to its use. Some prejudice against it having been manifested, Dr. Grattan, in order to remove it, if possible, determined to use it in his own family; and, accordingly, upon finding that his domestic servants refused even to prepare it, insisted on their doing so, and stood by until his directions were obeyed. Of the meal thus prepared, he and all his children partook. In the kitchen the servants refused to eat it, and their share was given to four calves, all of which died shortly after. The following morning Dr. Grattan was actively engaged investigating this extraordinary occurrence, which had immediately been spread abroad amongst the ignorant peasantry as the effect of the Indian corn, when his eldest son called him to breakfast, mentioning, at the same time, that they had just breakfasted on flummery, and, what was very curious, that they were every one sick; and true it was. When he reached the house, he found Mrs. Grattan, the four children, and a servant-maid, exhibiting all the symptoms of poisoning by arsenic. The doctor having, by his accidental absence, escaped partaking of the poisoned food, was able to give instant assistance to the unfortunate sufferers, and had used the ordinary antidotes and remedies hours before medical assistance could possibly have reached them from any other quarter. In spite of every care, his eldest son died within twenty-one hours, and the others of the family are not out of danger. An inquest was held upon the body of the young man, and a verdict implicating the cook in the transaction was found, in consequence of which she has been committed to Naas gaol.

EXECUTION AT NENAGH.—William Walsh was hanged on Saturday, at Nenagh, for the murder of Daniel Berachree.

TRACTS FOR THE TRAINS.

BY ALBERT SMITH.

No. XI.

THE RIVERS, VALLIES, AND MOUNTAINS, OF FLEET-STREET.

Forming a complete Tourist's Handbook to that Romantic District.

NOWING the propensity of our countrymen to travel at this time of the year, we beg to suggest a tour, which is unequalled for diversity of adventure; and can be undertaken without passport, expense, or sea-passage. We allude to the celebrated pass of Fleet-street on the frontier of the City, which equals the Simplon or St. Gotthard in engineering difficulties and bold prospects.

Omnibuses convey the traveller at all hours to the New Church, in the Strand—at which point we recommend him to descend—and, as the journey is not unattended with peril, he ought to take a knapsack, a mountain staff, and a flask of brandy.

The Wenham Lake glacier is the first object of interest, from which the sherry cobblers of London take their source. In the dark ages of the Strand, it was a depot of American manufactures, which were truly national, for the clocks were much given to "tick" and were frequently "wound up." Some cheap wooden combs, too, proved the facility with which the Yankees could cut any teeth but their wisdom ones; and, we believe, the firm expected several cases of preserved repudiation, recommended by the faculty for gentlemen in embarrassed circumstances. But, being unprofitable, the store was changed to a glacier; and, being first done up as a speculation, was next done up as an ice-house. The glacier differs from the Swiss ones, its magnitude depending not on the cold of the winter, but on the heat of the summer. So many jokes have been made on Wenham ice—as its being the only thing American that can be clearly seen through, or is ever liquidated, &c.—that we may spare the reader's feelings by not making any more. We may state, however, that the ice-drinks, being a late importation, it is by no means a work of supererogation to teach your grandmothers to suck cobblers.

The effervescent fountains of Sainsbury are the next natural curiosity: but from their fizzyological power should only be visited by people of strong nerves capable of standing explosions.

The tourist next approaches the office of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, the exhibition of which is free to the public, and comprises the shop, the pigeon holes for the back numbers, the Panorama of London, and the pile of bound volumes. The gentleman in attendance is exceedingly polite, and makes no charge for showing these curiosities; but the visitor is expected to buy a paper.

At the Temple Bar frontier, an examination of personal effects sometimes takes place; and the tourist then arrives at the celebrated pass, where he first encounters a large body of natives, armed with enormous clubs, and performing some mystic ceremony of thumbing the earth, accompanying their exertions by wild cries. This tribe is friendly, unless the traveller is the aggressor, when they pour forth an angry flood of words, perfectly unintelligible. The journey now becomes one of much peril. Large deserts of gravel have to be crossed, and huge rocks of granite must be scaled, which offer very insecure footing; whilst, here and there, terrific chasms appear to open to the very centre of the earth. The view is, however, very interesting, embracing long perspectives of Chancery-lane and the Middle Temple, as well as the entrance of Hare-court, so called from the number of them found there, which the Templars have the sole right of hunting. High up, in these wild seclusions, live patient men—recluses of the order of J. Blackstone—who labour incessantly for the welfare of their fellow-creatures. Their doors are always open to those who are oppressed, or fancy that they are so; and their opinions may always be had, for a small consideration, which, as at the Great St. Bernard, they cannot demand, but must leave entirely to the generosity of the visitor. The revenues of the Templars are collected by their almoners, or attorneys; and they live principally upon roots and water, which they find in certain caves along the pass, known by the fantastic names of Dick's, The Rainbow, The Cock, The Cheshire Cheese, &c., which originate in different legends.

To one of these refectories, the traveller may now betake himself for the humble fare above spoken of. And at any of them he can procure guides, and every information, should he have made up his mind to attempt the ascent of Ludgate Hill, the loftiest of the London Alps.

OUR MAIL-TRAIN BAG.

ANY letters have reached us, by the last delivery, from ingenuous Correspondents, which are filled, in equal proportions, with compliments, abuse, suggestions, complaints, and jokes on trial. From them we select the following:—

1.
"SIR.—The pay-places at the stations are beginning to rival the pit doors of the Opera on the 'long Thursdays,' in the confusion and scrambling of the mob of travellers: and physical force has become a condition of railway travelling. At the mail-train of the South-Western, for instance, the fight is at times so severe, that carpet-bags



change hands in the mêlée and go into all sorts of wild destinations. Ladies find themselves at Guildford, with two regatta shirts, a razor, and a folding bootjack, for their luggage: and gentlemen are put down at Winchester with a visé, a paper of patchouli, something made of crinoline, and two side combs. Pray recommend more hands to be put on at these lines: alleviate the frantic bewilderments of the clerks, and oblige. Your constant reader, PHILIP BASINGSTOKE."

2.

The next is from a gentleman who makes complaint of the present state of



the strangest times in the world; forty-two minutes to this hour, and twenty-six after that; exceedingly difficult to remember; and, in addition to this, it usually occurs that it gets up to the station as the train disappears round the cutting. All our parishioners will rejoice to see this noticed; for although we live in a 'Nook and Corner of Old England,' your Journal reaches us there, and the ballad may do some good. I propose that it should be called—

THE RETURN OF THE OMNIBUS.

AIR.—"The Admiral."

How gallantly, how merrily, we ride along the lane,
The passengers all hope to catch the eight o'clock up-train;
The wind is fresh, and clouds of dust do in our faces fly,
Like coming from the Derby, when the roads are always dry.
And all along we triumph: large crows above us sweep;
Small boys rush out to shout at us, and maids from windows peep.
A free-school urchin hangs behind some way upon the road—
Oh! proud must be our omnibus of such a jolly load!

And proud is Tom, the driver, too, who smiles, and well he may,
Of twice three people (in and out) who'll each a shilling pay;
He's proud, too, of that old grey horse, who earns so very hard
The hay and water he shall have when once more in his yard.
Oh, would that I were Tom, to drive and order with a word,
That old grey horse, whose harness is made up of tape and cord,
I'd shout unto the free-school boy who's hanging on our lee,
'If you don't mind, I'll whip behind, as quickly you shall see.'

Our driver pale and paler grew; but, as we went along,
Still talked he to the passengers, and then he hummed a song;
And first he look'd behind him, and then he look'd on straight;
And then we thought we heard him say, "I thinks we is too late."
He shook—'twas but an instant—we saw his fearful plight.
The village clock struck eight just then: but that is never right.
He flogged the old grey horse along, till he was out of breath,
And when he reached the station doors he turn'd as pale as death.

We heard a bell, and then a pause, and then a bell again!
We knew our fine old omnibus had missed the 'eight up train.'
And next we heard a rush of steam, but nothing could we see,
But a whistle and a puff among the fir-trees on our lee.
We watch'd the passing vapour till it vanish'd round the steep,
Then back again f'wards home with all our luggage did we creep;
But never from that moment, having once been 'sold,' again
We patronised the omnibus that always miss'd the train."

ANSWER TO CHARADE THE SEVENTH.

1. Ban.

2. Jo.

3. BANJO.

THE THEATRES.

LYCEUM.

A new fairy extravaganza—without which the play-going public do not appear to believe in the existence of this pleasant theatre—was produced here on Monday evening, with the most complete success. It is called "The Magic Horn"; and is, as the bill honestly avows,

—a version, somewhat *tranche*,
Of "Oberon," by Weber and by Planche";

the libretto being followed with much tact and happy humour, and the names grotesquely parodied, and well cast. Thus, we have Sir *Bottle-of-Bordeaux*—the Sir *Huon* of the old piece (Mr. Keeley); and *Sherrywine-Sherasmin* (Mr. A. Wigan); *O'Brian-Oberon* (Miss Villars), and so on. Mrs. Keeley is the *Reiza*; Miss Bromley, *Fatema*; and Mr. F. Mathews, *Badmanair*. All the clever working company at the Lyceum are employed in the acting.

There is a much to laugh at; and this we hold to be a great end in theatrical amusements. Jokes there are in abundance, with fewer old friends than we have been accustomed to meet in similar entertainments; and allusions of all kinds: whilst, in the very effects, a burlesque spirit is well carried out. Mrs. Keeley imitates *Rachel à ravir*, and her spouse threw the house into convulsions by his impersonation of *Braham*, calling forth a loud encore for his magnificent singing in "Oh! 'tis a glorious sight to see." The appearance of Mr. F. Mathews, admirably made up for Ibrahim Pacha, was also the cue for a prolonged round of laughter and cheering. Mr. Wigan's *Sherrywine* was not very effective; but the part was by no means a good one for the display of this clever actor's peculiarities: albeit, we admire him less in Irishmen than in other characteristic delineations. Nor could Miss Farebrother make a great deal of *Roshana*, except an appearance, magnificently dressed. Miss Keeley played *Puck*, and sang some difficult music in a manner that was highly relished by the audience. Her acting was very spirited, and she looked remarkably well in her fanciful fairy dress. The first joke that hit the house was a line of *Sir Bottle's*. The ferocious *Prince* (Mr. Collyer) is reclining on the shoulder of *Reiza*, pretending not to hear a challenge, when the Knight exclaims—

There, take your Saracen's Head from that Snow Hill.

In the pretty concerted music, Miss Bromley sang to much advantage; and Miss Laidlaw's attractive dancing was no small feature in the piece. At the end of the first act, there was an exceedingly effective representation of a storm and shipwreck, produced by a phantasmagoria, under the direction of Mr. Child, on the same plan as the transformation in "Cinderella" and the flight in "The Enchanted Horse;" and a beautiful group of fairies, with the principal characters, lighted up by different coloured fires, formed an imposing *tableau* for the conclusion, after a neat plea for the fairies had been given by Mrs. Keeley. It reflects credit on the management of this theatre to state, that notwithstanding the complicated machinery, there was not a single hitch on the first night.

The burlesque is from the pen of Mr. Charles Dance, who, with Mr. Planche, originated, in a great degree, this popular style of entertainment, and whose pieces were amongst the most popular during the Vestris management of the Olympic Theatre. It is elegantly written, and all the jokes are turned with peculiar neatness. Although the loud bursts of laughter do not follow each other so closely as they were wont to do in former pieces of the kind, there is a continuous murmur of appreciation and amusement amongst the audience, which may be equally, if not more, satisfactory to the author.

The applause at the end was very hearty and general; and Mr. and Mrs. Keeley, Miss Keeley, and Mr. Wigan appeared before the curtain to receive the congratulations of a crowded house. "The Magic Horn" will have a long run. A word for the scenery by Messrs. Phillips and Hawthorn, which is admirably painted.

QUEEN'S.

We were glad to see so good a house at this theatre on Wednesday, when Mr. Abington, the lessee, appeared as *Hamlet*, for the second time, if we mistake not. The acting of this gentleman is throughout marked by careful emphasis, and an evident perception of the various phases of character through which the philosophic Prince passes. His features are expressive; and his reading, generally, evinces careful education and study. His attempt to support the legitimate drama, and raise the general character of the performances at this theatre, is most praiseworthy. It was, therefore, gratifying to find his performance loudly applauded by a full and intelligent audience. We cannot say a great deal for the other characters, who, however, certainly did their best. We must give the highest praise, however, to one exception—Mrs. R. Gordon, whose acting, as the Queen, was most admirable, and worthy of a much higher sphere than we conceive she has been hitherto in the habit of appearing in. The tragedy was carefully put upon the stage; and the appearance of the *Ghost* was managed by a very ingenious effect; the platform of the castle, and the portrait in the closet, being painted on a very transparent medium, which, when light was thrown on the figure, blended the scene and the spirit so curiously, that the latter had the appearance of being seen through. It is the intention of Mr. Abington, in the course of the winter, to become the manager of the Richmond theatre.

Miss Cushman and her sister have been during the week playing with great effect at the *SURVEY* Theatre, in characters which we have already noticed at full.

The fine weather of the week has again caused the various gardens to be filled with visitors. There has been a balloon race at CREMONA, and an attractive flower show at the *SURVEY* ZOOLOGICAL, for the benefit of the florists who suffered by the late storms; whilst at VAUXHALL the site on Prince Albert's birthday drew together eight or nine thousand people on Wednesday evening. Fine weather has done all this; and, at the same time, there is evidently a disposition on the part of "the people" to become Parisian in their amusements of this nature.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, BIRMINGHAM.—The annual meeting of the Governors of Queen's College was held on Thursday in the Theatre of that institution. Mr. G. F. Muntz, M.P., occupied the chair. The report read congratulated the Governors upon the successful progress of the College, and particularly eulogised the unwearied exertions of Mr. Sands Cox, the Dean of Faculty, its founder. The officers and Council of last year were re-appointed, and a vote of thanks being passed to Mr. Muntz for his conduct in the chair, the meeting broke up. The proceedings were altogether formal.

THE COEDEN TRIBUTE.—On Tuesday evening, a special meeting of the Manchester Committee was held, when Mr. Wilson said, the general fund had considerably increased since they last met, and now amounted to £68,650. Of this sum Manchester proper had contributed about £24,300, and the district around Manchester, £16,151, making £40,451. At Liverpool, the amount by that time was about £3000; Preston, £800; Bristol, £1000; London, £12,000; Dundee, £400; Leeds, nearly £1000; Glasgow, about £3000; and Birmingham £2000. Of course, from the agricultural districts, large sums could not be expected, but a considerable number of small subscriptions had been received. The midland county towns were also exerting themselves. Amongst the subscribers were the following members of the Government:—The Prime Minister, £100; Earl Grey, £100; Viscount Morpeth, £30; Earl Fortescue, £50; the Chancellor of the Exchequer, £100; Mr. T. B. Macaulay, £25; Mr. W. Gibson Craig, £25. Mr. Wilson then alluded with much satisfaction to the reception of Mr. Cobden in France; not only from his Majesty Louis Philippe, but also from the distinguished political economists of Paris, which he thought, would contribute much to a good understanding between the two countries.

SINGULAR FRAUD UPON MESSRS. COURTS.—A singular fraud has been committed upon Messrs. Coutts and Co. It appears that a person having a check for £5, increased the amount to £5000 by an obvious alteration, and succeeded in getting Bank-notes. This operation having been accomplished, he lost no time in going to the Bank of England, and changing a part at least of his newly-acquired notes for gold. As yet, we believe, there is no trace of the culprit.

GOSSIP OF THE WEEK.

EVERY reader of Southey must recollect the Fiery Three in the "Curse of Kehama," and the very unpleasant station which they filled as supporters of the Golden Throne in Padalone:—

Three human forms sustained its ponderous weight,
With lifted hands outspread, and shoulders bowed,
Bending beneath the load.
A fourth was wanting. They were of the hue
Of coal of fire; yet were they flesh and blood,
And living breath they drew;
And their red eyeballs rolled with ghastly stare,
As thus, for their misdeeds, they stood tormented there.

The Three Poor-Law Commissioners have lately been standing before the public in a similarly uncomfortable position, bending beneath the burden of their office, and tormented by Press and Parliament for their misdeeds, and those of their officials. The evidence given before the Andover Committee is about to stir up fresh fuel for public indignation against the Fiery Three of Somerset House, whose berth will soon, we suspect, grow far too hot to hold them.

Next to this topic, which Whig and Tory, Malthusian and Sadlerian, seize on with equal avidity, the zeal of honourable M.P.'s during the last week has principally displayed itself touching matters of taste. The Duke's Statue haunts senatorial minds like chimeras dire, and very funny ideas and proposals it gives rise to.

The Duke (that is to say the Duke in effigy) is not to be robbed of his ride on the arch at Hyde Park Corner. Lord Morpeth says "he is to be put up experimentally," just as an equestrian novice is put up experimentally on the big horse in the riding school. Or, as horse dealers allow a trial of a living animal, so a three weeks' trial of the stone steed on the top of the gate is to be permitted before the nation is fixed with the bargain. However, in the words of Lord Morpeth, we "do not wish to say anything which would derogate from the experiment;" and only hope that

When the Arch-Duke doth ride aloft

May we be there to see.

It is not often that anything very humorous comes from the hon. member for Evesham; but, in this debate about the Arch and its Rider, he certainly gave out the germ of a bright idea, when he said that "they might as well place the statue of the Venus di Medici behind the Speaker's chair." Depend upon it, casts of the first-rate statues might be ranged round the House of Commons, and adapted to the places usually occupied by eminent members with very great effect. Thus the large statue of the Eleusinian Ceres might be placed behind the chief bench of the Pro-Corn-Law orators. The group of Hercules and Antaeus might fitly appear near Sir Robert Peel, to commemorate his tardy and difficult victory over the sons and champions of the land. The Fighting Gladiator would make a fit emblem for the pugnacious D'Israeli, though probably he would prefer the Apollo, as typical of himself, when he has just shot off some sarcasm against our late rulers. The Farnese Hercules should be near O'Connell, notwithstanding his disclaimer of physical force; and the Bearded Bacchus would make an appropriate neighbour for Mr. Muntz.

We only indicate a few specimens of this symbolical decoration, but we have no doubt but what, during the recess, some intellectual member will prepare some resolutions on the subject.

Limerick's ancient town,

Where bold Sarsfield won renown,

seems disposed to uphold Smith O'Brien in his rebellion against the mighty Dan. But men have ceased to think much about "Ireland and Repeal," compared to the extent to which their thoughts are now fixed on "Ireland and Potatoes." Would that the stanza were still applicable, which George Colman put in the mouths of his Irish Bards:—

Ours is an esculent lusty and lasting—

No turnip, or other weak root of the ground;

Waxy or mealy, it hinders from fasting

Half Erin's inhabitants all the year round.

The subject, however, is too painful to dwell on here; and we gladly send our minds on a trip in the *Great Western*, to watch what scenes Brother Jonathan may be preparing for our edification.

The Yankees seem to be having it pretty much their own way in the New World. California, Yucatan, and a number of other Mexican provinces, with horrible names and worse climates, seem in a fair way of being metamorphosed into new states of the "Great Pattern Republic," which is certainly showing itself a perfect pattern of Republican rapacity. As for war, the business in Mexico does not deserve the name. Indeed, the Spanish race there seems to be as helpless before the Anglo-Saxon as the Aztec was in bygone centuries before the Spanish. Cortes and his followers were scarcely more superior to the native Mexicans, whom they attacked and subjugated, than old "Rough and Ready" (as General Taylor is called) and his riflemen are to the degenerate descendants of the old "Conquistadores."

When a new State joins the Union, the national banner of stars and stripes is immediately decked with a new luminary; and the extent to which a spirit of ambition and aggrandisement now prevails through all ranks of American citizens, may be judged of by the popular toast at their public dinners being, "May the stars bespangle our flag so increase, that there may be no longer any room for stripes." At the same time that we read of this national symptom of Yankee restlessness and thirst for conquest, we see in one of the Liverpool papers a pleasant proof of the notion which these "free and enlightened citizens" entertain of human rights in men whose flesh-colour differs from their own. Some American sailors have been amusing themselves by spitting on and striking a Negro, a Mulatto, and a Hindoo, to uphold the true "Aristocracy of the Skin." The information that our laws admitted no difference between white and black, coupled with as sharp a sentence as a magistrate could inflict, has, we hope, served as a salutary lesson to these slaveholding Liberals of the Far West.

Let America try internal reform, and emancipate her slaves, instead of meddling with her weaker neighbours. This will be a far nobler way of increasing her stars at the expence of the stripes, than will be found in her present career.

AMERICAN STARS AND STRIPES.

Stars of the West, whose fearless dag
Floats o'er th' Atlantic's guardian crag,
From Nova Scotia's realms of cold
To Montezuma's kingdom old.

Go, rather, set your bondsmen free,
You vaunting Sons of Liberty!
Let your proud flag no longer wave
Over the scourgings of the slave;

Why seek to swell your glittering host?

It is not number makes ye bright;

'Tis beaming in the cause of Right.

The first among your heavenly band

Dawn'd forth Oppression to withstand.

Why dim them with the rays malignant

That o'er Aggression's triumphs shine?

Go, rather, set your bondsmen free,

You vaunting Sons of Liberty!

Let your proud flag no longer wave

Over the scourgings of the slave;

And then the Stripes that stain its

field

To holiest Stars may fitly yield.

Over the scourgings of the slave;

And then the Stripes that stain its

field

To holiest Stars may fitly yield.

Dawn'd forth Oppression to withstand.

Bore no brother near the throne.

Russia sends still from time to time before the world formidable bulletins about what she is doing with the Circassians. But the truth is, that she fares but badly in that struggle.

This is not exactly the St. Petersburg version of the campaign, but it is the true one. Disraeli says the Jews are true Caucasians. We should like to raise Schamli, the Abd-el-Kader of the Caucasus, an auxiliary legion in Monmouth-street and the Minories.

CABINET COUNCIL.—A Cabinet Council was held on Wednesday afternoon, at the Foreign Office. The Ministers present were—Lord John Russell, the Lord Chancellor, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Earl of Minto, Viscount Palmerston, Earl Grey, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Earl of Auckland, Sir John Hobhouse, Lord Campbell, the Earl of Clarendon, Viscount Morpeth, the Right Hon. T. B. Macaulay, and the Right Hon. H. Labouchere. Sir George Grey subsequently joined his colleagues. The Council sat two hours and a half.

THE ALLEGED MURDER BY TWO BOYS.—At Liverpool, on Monday, James Seddon, 17, and Joseph Dean, aged only 12, were tried for the murder of George Ray, in Manchester. We gave some particulars of the case at the time. The Jury acquitted the prisoners.

EPITOME OF NEWS.—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Lisbon letters of the 15th inst., state that a conspiracy for the overthrow of the existing Ministry had been discovered, and happily frustrated. The 1st Regiment of Lancers, the 16th Foot, and part of the Municipal Guard were to have turned out, and proclaim the Cabral régime; but the plot was discovered in time, and its execution prevented, owing to the prompt measures taken by Count Das Antas, the Military Governor of Lisbon. It is said the conspirators purposed to murder the Duke of Palmella, Sa da Bandeira, and other leading men in power.

The Ministerial Whitebait Dinner took place on Saturday, at Greenwich.

According to a Vienna letter of the 9th, the Pope's Nuncio to the Court of Austria has gone to see Prince Metternich at Konigsberg, to make some important communications from his Holiness.

Sir Charles Grey has been appointed Governor of Jamaica.

A private letter from Papaete states that fresh hostilities had taken place. The letter bears the date of 11th April:—"Taking advantage of the absence of the *Uranie*, stationed at Uahine, the Kanaks, to the number of 1200, on the evening of the 13th, attacked the village of Papaete and the camp pitched by the crew of the *Uranie*. The camp was defended by 50 sailors of the *Heroine*, who eventually beat off the enemy. The French had six killed and 15 wounded, among the latter a midshipman of the *Phœnix*. The buildings outside the camp were pillaged and destroyed. The loss of the Kanaks is not given."

The *Nuremberg Correspondent* of August 17, announces that Don Miguel, who lived at Albano, in the Roman States, on a pension granted to him by the Pope, had gone to Porto d'Anzi to wait there the arrival of a Portuguese vessel

NEW GRAMMAR SCHOOL AT CHESTERFIELD.

The borough of Chesterfield, in Derbyshire, had its grammar or free school, founded in the reign of Elizabeth, and well attended for a long period. It was under the management of the Corporation, who seem, however, scarcely to have respected the munificence of their ancestors; for, in 1832, the school was closed, owing to the affairs of the Charity being in Chancery. At length, the prospect brightened, when the old structure was ascertained to be in such a state of decay, that it became necessary to take it down, and rebuild it.

The architects chosen for this purpose were Messrs. Patterson and Hine, of Nottingham, from whose design the building engraved above, has been erected, on the site of the old school—a beautiful spot in the outskirts of the town, and commanding a fine view of the Derbyshire hills. The new edifice is of stone, and in the early pointed style of English architecture. The plan comprises two lofty school-rooms, 44 by 18 feet, with masters' residences, and excellent accommodation for boarders. On the south side is a tower, containing the staircase to the upper school-room, and a chamber for a clock and bell. The work has been most substantially executed, and is a pleasing architectural group.

GENERAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.—The half-yearly Meeting of this Corporation was held on Tuesday, at their offices, 69, Lombard-street; Mr. Wilkin in the chair. A Report from the Directors, and a statement of the accounts for the half-year ending the 30th of June last, were read to a large assembly of the proprietors. The Report was very satisfactory, the result of the last half-year's operations rivalling that of the most prosperous the Company ever had. After declaring the usual dividend, the cordial thanks of the Proprietors were voted to the Chairman and to the Directors for their unabating zeal in the promotion of the Company's interests.

A CENTENARIAN AND SOMETHING MORE.—Mr. Matthew Pearson, the oldest inhabitant of the town of Knaresborough, is now in the one hundred and eleventh year of his age, and wonderful to relate, notwithstanding his great age, he continues in full possession of his faculties. He can read without the aid of spectacles, and can at any time walk between the towns of Harrogate and Knaresborough, a distance of three miles, without any assistance whatever. This modern Old Parr resides with his son-in-law, Mr. T. Hemsley, near the Anchor Inn, in the High-street. He was born in the parish of Pannall, and for a long period kept a public-house there, known by the sign of the Black Bull, and followed the occupation of a common carrier between Leeds and Knaresborough.—*Halifax Express.*

FUNERAL OF THE LATE SIR CHARLES WETHERELL.—At the hour of eleven on Tuesday morning, the remains of the late Sir Charles Wetherell were deposited in the vault of the Inner Temple Church, appropriated for the interment of the Benchers of that Society, of which Sir Charles was the senior member. The arrangements were of a strictly private character. The relatives who attended his remains to the grave were—his brothers, the Rev. Richard Wetherell and Archdeacon Wetherell; his brother-in-law, Mr. Richard Spooner, M.P.; and the Rev. Edward Rowden, and his nephews, the Rev. Richard Lane Freer, and Mr. Nathan Wetherell.



NEW FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL, AT CHESTERFIELD.

TOMB OF THE LATE MR. BECKFORD, AT BATH.

This artistic monument to the Author of "Vathek," and the architect of Fonthill Abbey, and Lansdown Tower, was prepared during his life-time, from a design of his own suggestion. It was placed in the garden at Lansdown, wherein

death, &c., and quotations—one from a poetical prayer by Mr. Beckford; and the other a passage from "Vathek."

The monument is inclosed with metal-work, designed by Mr. Goodridge, the architect, in the Byzantine style, so as to harmonize with the Norman chapel of the Cemetery, and the cloisters proposed to be added. The metal-work has been executed by the Coalbrook Dale Company, and is one of the finest specimens of iron-casting in the country.

STATE CABIN OF THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA'S NEW YACHT.

In our Journal of June 20th, we engraved the launch of this splendid Yacht, built for the Emperor of Russia, by Mr. Joseph White, of Cowes. We are now enabled to present to our readers a view of the interior of the State Cabin, which, for the exquisite taste of its fittings, has been the admiration of all who have inspected it.

The State or Main Cabin is 23 feet square, and 6 feet 10 inches in height under the beams. It is fitted with bird's-eye maple and rosewood; each alternate panel being filled with a picture of Yachting (principally at Plymouth), Russian ships saluting, &c.; the subjects, ten in number, painted by Mr. N. M. Condy, the characteristic fidelity of whose marine sketches has so often graced the pages of the *ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS*. The mantel-piece is of greenish-blue marble; above it is a mirror; and on each side is a mahogany door. The furniture is of rosewood and crimson velvet, except the arm-chairs, which are finished with figured green velvet; the carpet is of various shades of red. In the centre of the Cabin is a patent expanding table, which, with the upholstery throughout, is of the finest manufacture.

On Monday, the 17th instant, her Majesty, Prince Albert, the Duchess of Kent, and the Royal suites, inspected this fine Yacht, prior to its proceeding to St. Petersburg.

Mr. Joseph White, the builder, and Mr. Powell, the commander of the Yacht, received her Majesty at the gangway. Lord Mount Edgecumbe, being an invalid, was nevertheless on the quarter-deck. Her Majesty, after taking a view of the vessel's deck, addressed a few complimentary words to his Lordship on the fine appearance of the Yacht, who disclaimed all merit to himself as regarded its construction, beyond the internal arrangements. His Lordship, by permission of her Majesty and the Prince, introduced Mr. White to them, both of whom most cordially entered into a lengthened conversation with the builder, and afterwards inspected the arrangements below. His Royal Highness requested Mr. White to accompany her Majesty over the Yacht, and explain to them the various departments, which he had the honour to do. Her Majesty and the Prince appeared to take great interest, and remained below nearly a quarter of an hour inspecting the internal fittings of the Yacht, and eventually expressed themselves highly pleased, and passed a very high encomium on her talented builder.

The illustrious visitors, after remaining on board the Yacht about half-an-hour, returned to the Barge, which proceeded towards the bow of the Yacht, to enable the Queen to have a view of her own bust, which forms the figure-head, and is a most excellent likeness. Her Majesty appeared to be highly pleased with its execution, but indulged in a most hearty laugh, probably at the idea of its probable constant exposure to the inclemency of the weather.

On leaving the Yacht, her Majesty was greeted with the loud and hearty cheers of the crew, who, from captain to cook, are all Welchmen, and noble looking fellows.

On Monday last, the Yacht proceeded out of the Harbour; and, in the evening, being ready for sea, got under way, having on board Mr. Sims, the Baltic Pilot, who will have charge of her as North Sea Pilot. At her departure, she hoisted the new Imperial Yacht Flag, which is very similar to the St. George's Ensign.

We understand it to be the intention of the Emperor of Russia to establish a



TOMB OF MR. BECKFORD, IN THE CEMETERY AT BATH.

RESTORATION OF THE TOMB OF WOOLLETT, THE ENGRAVER.

We have been interested to learn that the Tomb of William Woollett—who ranks at the head of the English school of engraving—has lately been restored at the expense of the Graphic Society.

Woollett died in London, in 1785, and was buried in Old St. Pancras Church-yard; there is a monument to him in the cloisters of Westminster Abbey; but this memorial has the character of a mansoulement in comparison with the head and foot-stones which mark the engraver's "narrow home" at St. Pancras. The inscription on the head-stone had become almost illegible; when the Graphic Society stepped in, and directed the work to be restored at their expense; a worthy tribute to the memory of Woollett, who must be considered as the founder of our school of Landscape Engraving, which, since his time, has been carried to the highest perfection of art. And, as the extensive distribution of pictures by means of engraving has most materially tended to improve taste, as well as greatly to assist in the diffusion of knowledge, we look upon Woollett as a great benefactor to his country; and this mark of respect which has just been paid to his memory is highly commendable to the intelligent Society of Artists with whom it originated.

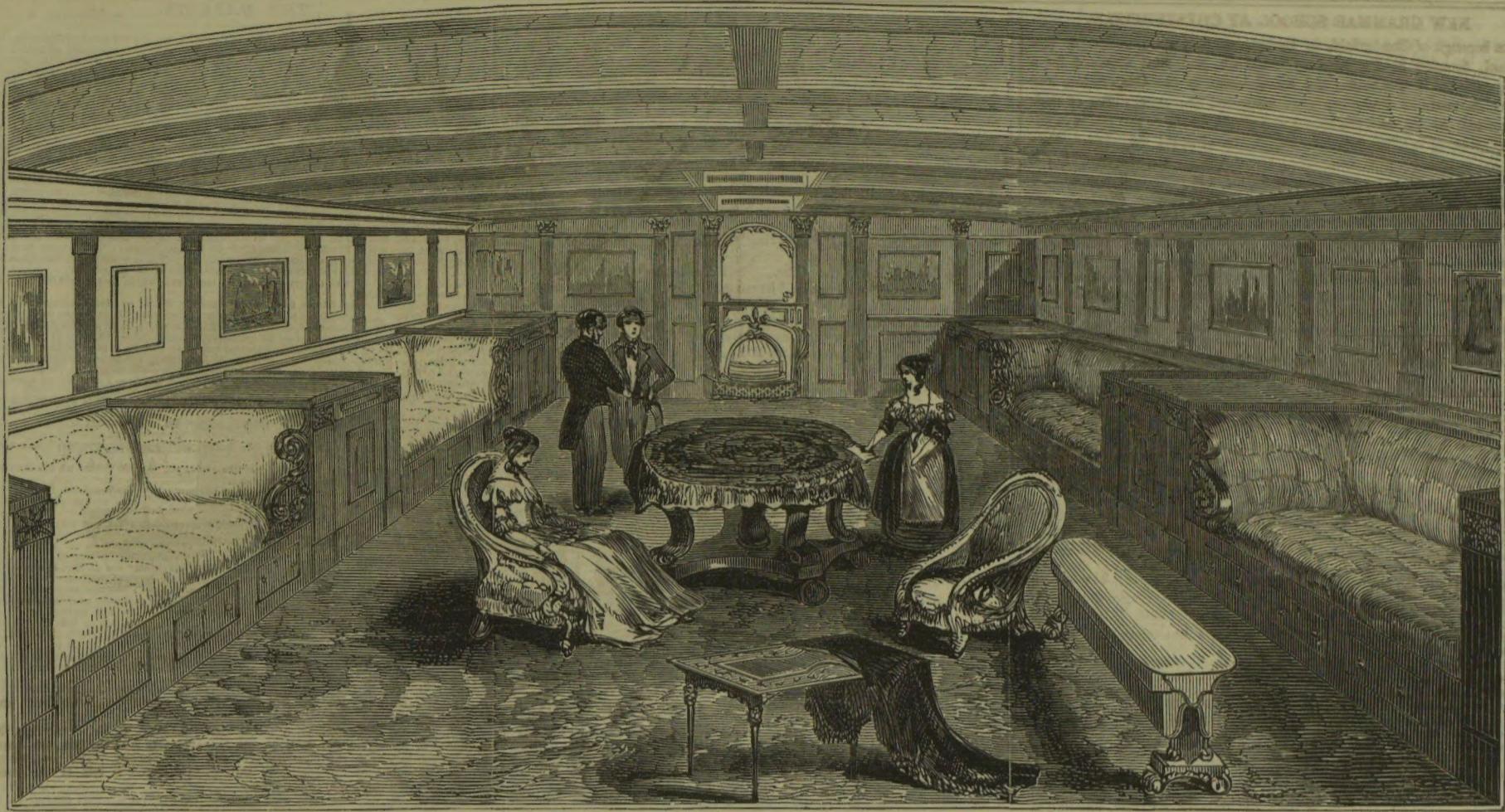
Woollett is spoken of as a man of admirable character and a very amiable disposition. The following anecdote, said to have been told by West, evinces an extraordinary degree of perseverance and patience. Woollett, when he had finished his plate of the "Battle of the Hogue," took a proof to West for his inspection: at first, the President expressed himself perfectly satisfied with the plate; but, upon a longer examination, he observed that in some parts alterations might be made, and in others additional colour might be added, which would, in his opinion, improve the effect of the whole; and, taking a port-cravat with black and white chalk in it, he showed in a few minutes the effect he wished to produce, remarking at the same time that it was of no great consequence, but it might improve the appearance of the plate. Woollett, however, immediately consented to make the alterations and additions pointed out: "But, how long will it take you, Mr. Woollett?" said the President. "Oh! about three or four months," replied the engraver. "And the patient creature," said West, when relating the circumstance, "actually went through the additional labour without a murmur."

ARTISTIC AND LITERARY REUNION.—On Saturday last, Mr. Britton, F.S.A., entertained at the Castle Hotel, Richmond, a large party of artists, men of science, and letters. After dinner, which was served in the best style of the establishment, the leading toasts were—Friendship, given by Mr. Britton; Literature, responded to by Mr. Jerdan; Art, by Mr. T. Uwins; and Science, by Mr. T. Bell; and the company separated after an evening of delightfully intellectual festivity. Among the guests we noticed Sir W. Ross, R.A.; Mr. T. Uwins, R.A.; Mr. D. Roberts, R.A.; Mr. W. Harvey; Mr. C. E. Wagstaff; Mr. T. Bell, F.R.S.; Mr. J. E. Gray, F.R.S.; Mr. G. Godwin, F.R.S.; Mr. W. Jerdan, F.S.A.; Mr. T. Crofton Croker, F.S.A.; Mr. P. Cunningham; Mr. Brayley, F.S.A.; and several other personal friends of Mr. Britton, during his extended and honourable career.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.—Returns have just been laid before Parliament relative to the public income, expenditure, &c., for some years past. It appears from them that the public income of the United Kingdom was as follows: In 1843 it was £56,935,022; in 1844, £58,590,217; and in 1845, £57,602,268. The expenditure was, in 1843, £55,501,740 (leaving a surplus of £1,433,283); in 1844 it was £55,103,647 (leaving a surplus of £3,456,570); and in 1845 it was £58,872,063 (leaving a surplus of £3,729,205). In 1843 the expenses attending the national efforts for the abolition of slavery (such as bounty on slaves, commissioners to prevent the traffic in slaves, "bills drawn on account of captured slaves," &c.), amounted to £1,760,463; in 1844, to £1,733,328; and in 1845, to £1,568,451.



TOMB OF WOOLLETT, THE ENGRAVER, IN OLD ST. PANCRAS CHURCHYARD.



STATE CABIN OF "THE QUEEN VICTORIA" YACHT, BUILT FOR THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

Grand National Yacht Club; and his Imperial Majesty has himself commenced by the construction of this vessel.

RETURN OF DR. LEICHARDT FROM PORT ESSINGTON.

By the courtesy of a Correspondent, we have engraved a Portrait of this enterprising traveller in Australia; of whose safe return to Port Essington, after sixteen months' journey in the Desert, a recent Indian Mail brought intelligence to the Royal Geographical Society.

Dr. Leichardt, accompanied by Mr. Gilbert, a naturalist, and six others, started from Moreton Bay in October, 1844, to penetrate to Port Essington, in order, if possible, to open a direct route to Sydney, right across the country. Various reports arrived at Moreton Bay in the spring of 1845 of the party having been cut off by the natives. To ascertain the truth of this report, an expedition was sent out in August last, under the command of Mr. Pemberton Hodgson, who traced the party for a distance of 400 miles, far beyond the place of their supposed massacre: Hodgson's party were ultimately compelled to return with only the hope of the probable safety of the adventurous explorers, who have at length brought their journey to a successful termination.

Dr. Leichardt found it impossible to penetrate into the interior in a direct course, on account of high table-land and the absence of water: this circumstance compelled him to keep within six or seven degrees of the coast. Their six months' provisions being exhausted, their only resource was the horses and stock bullocks, and with these the strictest economy was necessary to prolong life and pursue their journey. One of these was killed as provision for a month; sometimes a horse, at others a bullock. For six months prior to reaching Port Essington, they were reduced to 1lb. of meat per day, frequently putrescent, unaccompanied with salt, bread, or any kind of vegetable.

In the neighbourhood of the Gulf of Carpentaria, Mr. Gilbert, the naturalist, and Mr. Calvert, having been separated from the main body, went to sleep on the ground without keeping watch; they were surprised by the natives, and Mr. Gilbert was first speared, and then his brains were dashed out with a club; Mr. Calvert, although speared through both legs, managed to rejoin his party. They at length reached Port Essington on the 2nd of December, 1845, and were most hospitably received by the Commandant, Captain Macarthur. After a six weeks' sojourn to recruit, they sailed for Sydney in the *Heroine*. The death of Mr. Gilbert, an amiable and promising young man, is much to be regretted, as it was the only instance of attack from the natives which occurred during the whole journey. Much fine country was passed in the neighbourhood of the Gulf of Carpentaria.



DR. LEICHARDT, THE TRAVELLER IN AUSTRALIA.

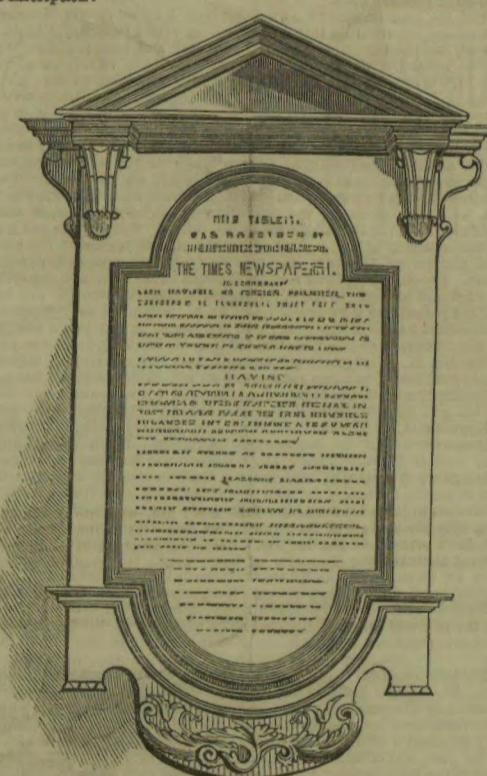
We quote this from a recent communication in the *Times*.

"I think," says Dr. Leichardt, in concluding his narrative, "the most important results of my expedition are the discovery of the Mackenzie, the Isaacks, the Downs of Peak Range, and the Sutor; that of a communication between the east coast of Australia and of the east coast of the Gulf of Carpentaria, along the river, with running water through a fine country; that of the Nonda Country, and of the Big Plains at the east side, and at the head of the Gulf; that of a communication between Limmenblight and the South Alligator River, along running streams and creeks. The future will show how far the country along the Big Rivers between the head of the Gulf and Limmenblight is available."

"THE TIMES" TESTIMONIAL.

An interesting tribute to the manly independence and high character of *The Times* newspaper has, with the permission of the Joint Gresham Committee, just been erected, by public subscription, in the New Royal Exchange. It consists of a neat mural tablet of white marble, surmounted with a bold projecting pediment, supported on sculptured Italian trunks; the block, sustaining the whole, being richly ornamented with classic foliage. The Tablet is placed in the vestibule of the Exchange, under the clock, by the entrance to the Subscription Room of the Merchants and Underwriters; and opposite to the spot on which the marble statue of his Royal Highness Prince Albert, as having laid the foundation-stone of the Royal Exchange, is to be set up.

The Monument was opened to the public on Thursday, the 20th inst., by the Lord Mayor, Mr. Masterman, M.P., Mr. Alderman Wilson, Mr. Alderman Hughes, and a Sub-committee appointed for the purpose; when the greatest admiration was expressed by all present of the manner in which Messrs. Piper (the sculptor), had erected the very handsome and appropriate design of Mr. Tite; and on the suggestion of the Lord Mayor, it was resolved that the sculptors' and architect's names should be inscribed on the Tablet. The following is a copy of the inscription:—



"THE TIMES" TESTIMONIAL TABLET, IN THE VESTIBULE OF THE NEW ROYAL EXCHANGE.

THIS TABLET WAS ERECTED TO COMMEMORATE THE EXTRAORDINARY EXERTIONS OF "THE TIMES" NEWSPAPER, IN THE EXPOSURE OF A REMARKABLE FRAUD UPON THE MERCANTILE PUBLIC, WHICH EXPOSURE SUBJECTED THE PROPRIETORS TO A MOST EXPENSIVE LAWSUIT.

As a meeting of merchants, bankers, and others, held at the Mansion-house on the 1st day of October, A.D. 1841, the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor in the chair, the following resolutions were agreed to, videlicet:—

"That this meeting desire to express, in the most unqualified terms, its sense of the indefatigable industry, perseverance and ability shown by the proprietors of the *Times* newspaper in the exposure made, through the instrumentality of that journal, in the trial of 'Boyle v. Lawson,' of the most remarkable and extensively-fraudulent conspiracy ever brought to light in the mercantile world."

"That this meeting desire to offer its grateful acknowledgments to the proprietors of the *Times* newspaper, for the services which they thus have been the means, at great labour and expense, of rendering the commercial community throughout Europe."

"That the effect of such exposure is not only highly useful to the commercial and banking community, as suggesting additional care and circumspection in all monetary dealings, but as showing the aid which a public-spirited and independent journal has in its power to afford in the detection and punishment of offences which aim at the destruction of all mercantile confidence and security."

"That the Committee now appointed be empowered to take measures for the purpose of recovering the permanent manager, the sense of obligation conferred by the proprietors of the *Times* on the commercial world."

The proprietors of the *Times* refusing to be reimbursed the heavy costs incurred by them in the defence of the above mentioned action, the Committee opened a subscription, which amounted at its close to £2700; and, at a meeting held at the Mansion-house, on the 9th day of February, A.D. 1842, specially summoned for the purpose of considering the application of the amount subscribed, it was resolved as follows:—

"That 150 guineas be applied to the erection of this Tablet, and of a similar one to be placed in some conspicuous part of the *Times* printing establishment."

"That the surplus of the fund raised be invested in the purchase of Three per Cent. Consols, the dividends to be applied to the support of two Scholarships, to be called 'The Times' Scholarships."

"That 'The Times' Scholarships be established in connection with Christ's Hospital and the City of London School, for the benefit of pupils proceeding from those institutions respectively to the Universities of Oxford or Cambridge."

"That Christ's Hospital and the City of London School be required to place in their respective institutions a tablet commemorative of the establishment of such Scholarships."

All which has been duly carried into effect.

(Then follow the names of the Committee, headed by the Right Hon. Sir JOHN PIRIE, Bart., Lord Mayor, Chairman and Treasurer.)

The Lord Mayor, Mr. Masterman, Aldermen Wilson and Hughes Hughes, accompanied by Messrs. Tite and Piper, afterwards proceeded to Printing-house-square, to remove the covering from the Tablet bearing the same inscription, erected by order of the subscribers in *The Times* office. This Tablet is an oblong panel, of beautiful veined marble, introduced over the frontispiece forming the architectural decoration of the principal entrance to *The Times* office, and has been so designed as to harmonise with the general facade of the building. The Lord Mayor and the other gentlemen having expressed their unqualified approbation of the manner in which the directions of the committee of subscribers had been carried into effect, were conducted over *The Times'* establishment, and inspected the four printing machines, one of which, recently erected, throws off the almost incredible number of 6,000 double sheets per hour.

GOLD; OR, THE HALF-BROTHERS.

BY CAMILLA TOULMIN.

CHAPTER V.

Her voice was like the voice of his own soul
Heard in the calm of thought. SHELLEY.

Mrs. Clifford and her second daughter had departed for the theatre; and Hester, the eldest, had retired, as was her custom so often, to her own chamber, either to indulge in wild and gloomy reveries, or shadow them forth with the pencil. Margaret was alone, and she sat for a while near the open window, in that dreamy mood in which the senses are recognisant of all that passes though the mind may wander far away. To be sure there was very little in the aspect of that quiet street to distract her attention from engrossing thoughts. The postman, it is true, passed on the other side of the way with his quick step and impatient knock every now and then, but he brought no letters there; and the ringing sound of children's glad voices floated from the open drawing-room windows opposite, in token that a Father was returned from his daily labours—a Father who could unbend his mind to meet their baby glee and dear caresses. Margaret could see the little urchins climb and cling about him; and the mother, in the early summer of her years, wait smiling and patiently till they had evinced their noisy welcome, sure herself of the last and warmest greeting.

It was a picture of domestic happiness that the heart deciphered, and which contrasted forcibly with Margaret's lonely and desolate home—for companionless she was. Of her two sisters, one was an object of deep and painful pity; the other, impulsive and changeable, was absorbed in a profession with which Margaret had little sympathy, seeing as she did, nothing but its trickeries and its mockeries. The poetry and power of acting as a branch of Art were not yet revealed to her.



She had sat in this dreamy listless mood a considerable time—for the needle work on which she had been engaged had fallen unheeded on her lap—when she was aroused by a slight tap at the door, and the next instant Trevor Sefton entered the room. He came for a book of which they had been speaking a day or two before, and which Margaret had promised to lend him; at least, so he said, and so he thought; though, after lingering with her nearly an hour (it did not seem a quarter of the time), he went away without the volume after all!

They had arrived at a significant stage in their intercourse. The easy unsuspecting frankness of pleasant friendly companionship was fast melting away. Though not a word had passed between them that

the vainest being could have interpreted as expressive of personal regard, there was a consciousness in the heart of each that would make itself felt; and yet they were very far from the full deep confidence which only belongs to acknowledged love. General topics of conversation somehow or other commonly became personal, and there was a slight constraint of manner, and occasional averting of the eyes, which made the gathering twilight anything but disagreeable. Conversation was much less fluent than it had been a few weeks before, and yet that hour seemed but a few minutes; and when at last he started up to take leave, there was a lingering pressure of the hand, neither resisted nor resented by Margaret, that—perhaps, made him forget the book for which he had come!

When the door was closed Margaret again sank into her chair, and mused until the soft twilight deepened into night. But her reverie, if not so calm as before, was also less sad. The strange chaotic feelings which had hitherto rather disturbed her mind than anything else, *would* now take the beautiful shapes of Love and Hope. But then came, like a shadow across the brightness, the bitter consciousness that they were both Poor, and in this worldly world Love is thought to be a luxury fit only for the Rich.

From instinctive knowledge rather than experience Margaret Clifford had told her friend that Love was an "ennobling sentiment;" and already was she beginning to prove the truth of her own words. Never had she felt so brave to meet the capricious temper of her mother, as she did that night, when Mrs. Clifford returned especially out of humour, partly because she had had an inferior box allotted to her, and partly because the new piece had been a failure. She was too cross to notice the wretched depression of Susan—or if she did observe it, no doubt she attributed her low spirits to the reprimand she had herself administered, and to the dissatisfaction expressed by the manager. The rôle apportioned to her was one of rather more importance than those she had been accustomed to sustain; and at rehearsal she had appeared to enter fully into its spirit, and adapt herself admirably to the part. Alas! when night came she was like a lifeless clod: never had she acted so feebly.

But Margaret was not so easily deceived. She felt there must be a cause for the failure, instead of the failure being the cause of the untreatable anguish depicted in the poor girl's face; and in the silence of night, when their mother had fretted herself to sleep, and Hester had sunk into a fitful slumber, she wrung from her sister the history of her secret grief.

Strange, within twenty-four hours to be made the confidante of two love stories: yet so it was. In her misery, Susan laid bare her heart: it was too late to be warned or advised, all she now asked was sympathy and compassion; these she knew her sister would bestow. But if she calculated only truly on her tenderness and affection, she also was aware of her clear judgment and unswerving principles; and, acting as a thousand others have done in similar circumstances, she had refrained from revealing passing events, while pursuing a wrong and imprudent course. Borne onwards as if by an intoxicating dream, she had not *dared* to seek the counsel which her heart told her must awake her to a darker reality.

It was a very common story. Flattered, and at first, perhaps, only amused by the eloquently-expressed admiration of a stranger—for her fickle lover was, by her own account, self-introduced—in the end, her fancy, if not her heart, had been captivated. The theatre afforded but too many facilities for carrying on a clandestine correspondence, in which she had become involved; in short, she had lived for months in a world of her own imagination, believing in a love, and truth, and honour, that existed nowhere else. That night, while dressing for her new part, she had received one of the scented satin-paper billets she was so well accustomed to recognise. But how different were its contents to anything she had expected! Expressions of devotion there were—such as a non-inventive genius might copy from a *Minerva-Press* novel—a plentiful sprinkling of "cruel fate" and "stern necessity," with mysterious allusions to pistols and prussic acid. But, when Susan Clifford found, at the conclusion, that the "cruel fate" resolved itself into the "stern necessity" of marrying a lady possessed of a considerable fortune—"an event which she would, probably, find very soon announced in the papers"—she had common sense enough left to dismiss all fears of the writer proving a suicide.

But, though indignation and contempt might struggle for the mastery in her heart, they could not prevent the wreck and ruin of that beautiful fabric her woman's nature had built. Is there much wonder that, in the new play, she had seemed like a lifeless automaton, rather than the sprightly actress?

The heartless letter was signed with the single initial "F"; and Susan refused to tell her sister who the writer really was.

"No, Margaret," she exclaimed, "spare me that confession. Let the secret be buried in my own heart; so that if, in the strange chances of life, we should ever meet, you may not have to blush for me, even if I find cause to blush for myself. It is a great satisfaction to me that he is in ignorance of my real name, knowing me only by that which I have assumed as an actress. Ah, you may look at the seal," she added, with a faint smile, "that tells no tales, for it is a very common one."

"You are wrong, dear Susan; I am 'herald' enough to know that the crest and quarterings are very uncommon. Were I so mean, I might wrest your secret from you with very little trouble by the help of this seal; but be assured I will not." And, as she spoke, she returned the letter to her sister.

"To think of heraldry being turned to such an account as that!" cried Susan; "well, your head seems filled with all sorts of out-of-the-way bits of knowledge. I wonder if you will ever find room in it for love and folly. Nay, you need not change colour at the mere idea. But, Margaret," she continued, after a pause, and the tears again flowing, "won't it be dreadful if I lose my engagement? Mr. —— had calculated on the piece being a hit, and I have ruined it. What will become of me? I am fit for nothing but the stage. And just, too, as I was getting on, and making my way up the ladder."

The fears of the young actress were only too truly realised. Her engagement was by the week, and the next Saturday she received her dismissal.

If the household of the Clifffords was very miserable when, at least, there was a sufficiency of means coming in for their daily expenditure, imagination better than words may picture what it became when the chief prop was removed and new anxieties crowded thickly around them. It is justice, however, to Mrs. Clifford, to own that, like most ill-tempered persons, she bore real troubles infinitely better than imaginary ones; and, having found the safety-valve of hatred and indignation against the manager, her daughters experienced less of her wrath than they would have done under happier circumstances. And yet she loved them—in her way.

Weeks passed on. Margaret had taxed her strength to the utmost, and had taken additional pupils, to eke out their narrow means. She really had very little time to devote to Catherine Joyce, and the interviews she had had with her friend had left rather a painful impression on her mind than otherwise, and yet she would have found it difficult to say *why* it was so. That she might arrange for her additional labours, and as the summer was drawing on, Margaret now began her avocations rather earlier than before; and, on her arrival one morning, she was met at the door by Mrs. Joyce, who was in tears, and she saw in an instant that the whole household were in terror and dismay from some sudden affliction.

"Oh, Miss Clifford," exclaimed Mr. Joyce, "I have sent a messenger to hasten your coming; you, perhaps, can give us some help, some clue, to point whither my daughter has fled."

"Fled! Catherine gone!" cried Margaret, in horror and amazement.

It was but too true; fled, as a letter she left on her table declared, to become that morning the wife of Frederick Drayton. Probably by accident, or perhaps on purpose, another letter was left behind, one from him to her, but it contained neither date nor address, and Mr. Joyce knew not the home of a mere acquaintance, whom, when invited to his parties, he had always addressed at his club.

But a strange discovery was at hand. The letter was shown to Catherine, and in an instant she recognised the hand writing and the Seal as identical with those of her Sister's fickle wooer! She uttered a cry almost of joy as she exclaimed

"I can save her—I can—I can."

"Perhaps—if you can find her before it is too late," said Mr. Joyce mournfully, "but where to seek I know not."

Margaret pressed her hand to her brow. She was trying to recall the dim memory of the address she had seen for an instant, when her friend had besought her to post the letter.

She experienced the common sensation of knowing she should recall it by-and-by; but it seemed as if there were a weight, an accumulation of more recent events, to be removed from her brain first. And, what was worst of all, she could not command words to explain what she was trying to remember, or to describe—even if she had wished to do so—the subtle chain by which she saw that she could unmast the double deceiver.

At last, the half-forgotten address dawned upon her. But, when she gave it, they hardly knew what she meant.

"I will go; I will show you; come with me," she exclaimed; and, scarcely waiting for Mr. Joyce to find his hat, she rushed from the house. Infinitely lighter of foot than that portly personage, she kept in advance of him, sometimes half a street's length; and, though the distance altogether that they traversed was but short, many were the heads turned to look at the hurrying pair.

At last she reached a certain street—approached a certain number: there was a carriage at the door. Breathless with running, Margaret Clifford darted up the steps, and knocked loudly. The door was opened in a moment; for Mr. Drayton, dressed as a bridegroom, and accompanied by a friend, was just being ushered out. Margaret seized his arm, in the excitement of the moment, crying, "In time to save her!" And at this instant, just before Mr. Joyce came up, Trevor Sefton passed by, saw there was some strange scene enacting, recognised Margaret, and beheld her familiar action!

(To be Continued.)

ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

FATAL ACCIDENT IN A POWDER MILL, IN SCOTLAND.—On Tuesday morning (last week), a fearful occurrence took place at the Kames Powder-mills, on the Kerry side of the Kyles of Bute (Argyleshire). The workmen were just about to commence operations in the corning-house, where the powder undergoes the operation of sieving, and where, consequently, a large quantity is gathered, when, by some unaccountable accident, this portion of the building was in a moment blown into the air. The workmen, five in number, shared the fate of the building; and their mutilated remains were found scattered at a great distance. A workman who was at some distance, although severely bruised, is still alive, but is not expected to survive. The scene is described as having been awfully grand. The report was so loud as to be heard at Inverary, a distance of forty miles.

MYSTEROUS CASE.—On Tuesday an inquest was held at Greenwich before C. J. Cartier, Esq., on the portion of the body of a female found off Ship Dock, on Saturday. The Jury proceeded to view the remains, which had been deposited in the bone-house, and which presented a sad spectacle, having apparently been imbedded in the mud for several months. The upper portion of the body above the breast bone was wanting. Henry Spriggs, waterman, at Greenwich, found the mangled remains. The only clothing on it was the boots; there were no stockings on. Mary Casey deposed that she resides in George-street, St. Giles's. She had a daughter by her former husband, named Catherine Donovay, about 21 years of age. She was an unmarried woman. The last time she saw her alive was on Easter Sunday, about four o'clock in the afternoon; nor did she know what had since become of her. When she left home she was dressed in a new striped cotton dress, stays, petticoats, new cotton stockings, boots, and a fancy pattern shawl. She saw the body and knew it to be that of her daughter by the particular position of the toes. Mary Quindon, cousin to the deceased, deposed that about four o'clock on Easter Sunday she saw the deceased pass her door. Three young men accosted her, and asked her to go to Greenwich with them. Her cousin told her what the young men had proposed, when she advised her not to go, as they were strangers to her, and she had no money in her pocket. One of them pulled out a quantity of silver, and told her she should not want for anything. The young men then went across the street to public-house, and witness went in doors. In about ten minutes after she saw deceased and the young men in company, repass her house, when she said she was going to see an acquaintance, and should shortly be home. Witness went and told her mother, never having known her keep company with any young man. She has since, upon two occasions, seen one of the young men in Wardour-street, and she believes he lived at No. 71, in that street. Could swear to deceased's boots, as she was with her when she bought them, on the Saturday before Easter Sunday, and was with her when she put them on, when, having broken one of the silk laces, witness gave her a cotton one. The boots found on the body were produced, and compared with another pair bought at the same shop by the last witness. They were examined by one of the Jury (a shoemaker), who pronounced them to have been bound by the same person, and that they were evidently a new pair of boots, and had not been worn more than one day. The Coroner said he should adjourn the case, in order that there might be a surgical examination. The inquiry was, therefore, adjourned until Tuesday next.

COLLISION ON THE BRIGHTON AND HASTINGS RAILWAY.—On Monday afternoon, a collision occurred on this line, at a place called Pevensey Shunes, about two miles beyond the Pevensey Station. Adjoining that spot is a pit whence the materials for ballasting are drawn, and parallel with the railway is a "siding" upon which the waggons, in order that the line may be kept clear, are drawn while being loaded; and it is the duty of the engineer when he takes a train upon this siding to see that the points leading to it are turned, so as to prevent any following train passing upon it. On the day above-mentioned, about one o'clock, an engine and a train of ballast waggons were upon this siding, and the engineer had neglected to see that the points were turned off; and when the half-past twelve o'clock train from Brighton came up, and the engine-driver seeing the points improperly placed, endeavoured to stop the train, but was unable to do so, as it was going at the rate of twenty miles an hour, it came into violent collision with the standing train in the siding. The engines came in contact, the buffer beams of both were much broken, the tender of the passenger train was thrown off the line, and the engine-driver and stoker were both thrown out. The driver suffered some contusions in the ribs, and the stoker was much scalded and burned. None of the carriages were thrown off the line, but several of the passengers were bruised and hurt. Some had their teeth knocked out, whilst others had their faces cut; and we regret to add that a clergyman—the Rev. Mr. Brown—had one of his legs broken. Fortunately, there was a surgeon in the train, Mr. H. R. Wotton, of Fitzroy-square, who promptly attended the unfortunate gentleman, had him removed to an inn in the neighbourhood, and at once set the limb, and he was removed to Hastings by a special train the same night. Dr. and Mrs. Hamilton, of Grafton-street, Piccadilly; Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Nightingale, of Norbiton, Surrey; and Mr. D'Egville, of London, were seated together in one of the second-class carriages. When the collision took place they were all thrown forward. Dr. Hamilton had his knee severely injured; Mr. Nightingale lost several of his teeth, his leg was severely bruised, and he remained insensible for nearly an hour. Immediately after the accident, a messenger was sent to Lewes for another engine, the engines which came into collision being both disabled; but, before one could be obtained, the two o'clock train from Brighton arrived at the spot, and the passengers were thus conveyed to their several destinations.

SUICIDE AT CHELTENHAM.—We regret to learn that Sir Justinian Vere Isham, Bart., a resident of Cheltenham, blew his brains out on Tuesday last. The unfortunate deceased was about thirty years of age, and had but lately succeeded his father in the title and estates. He was rather eccentric in his habits and turn of mind, and it is presumed that melancholy induced him to the committal of the rash act.

THE RECENT DEATHS FROM EATING POISONOUS BERRIES.—On Wednesday afternoon, Mr. William Baker, Jun., resumed the inquest at the London Hospital on the bodies of Thomas Parker and Samuel Jones, the two persons who died in the above institution from eating berries of the belladonna, or deadly nightshade. The Jury returned a verdict of Manslaughter against John Hillard, who sold the berries, for gross and criminal negligence, and want of due caution. The second case, that of the child Samuel Jones, was adjourned until Monday.

MYSTERIOUS ROBBERY AT THE BERWICK-UPON-TWEED BANK.—A robbery of a large sum of money was effected at the North of England Joint Stock Bank, Berwick-upon-Tweed, on Thursday (last week), which created considerable sensation there. The amount of gold and silver missed was said to be £3000. A ladder was found placed against the yard wall, as if for the purpose of getting over the wall, but as no impress from the ladder was discovered in the soil upon which it was rested, and it having been ascertained by experiment that the weight of an ordinary person on it caused it to sink to a considerable depth, it was at once concluded that no one had passed into, or from, the yard in that direction, or by means of it. Even then suspicion was not at once directed towards the inmates of the house. Subsequently, however, Mr. Cameron, the police officer of Tweedmouth, who, in conjunction with Mr. Proudfoot, of Berwick, were aiding in the investigation, happened to look into a water-butt in the yard, and, observing the water had been disturbed, he put his stick in, and found something soft and bulky at the bottom. He drained the water off, and then he discovered two packages, in strong brown paper, with a coarse tow round them. These turned out to be parcels of silver, which had been made up in the bank on the afternoon of Thursday. Mrs. Thompson, the wife of the manager of the bank, came into the yard with others, when it was known these parcels had been found, and, among other remarks, said, "she hoped the whole of the money would be found." It was evident, from various circumstances, that the robbery had been effected by a party or parties well acquainted with the bank. On Monday, accordingly, the authorities procured the assistance of a blacksmith and joiner, in order thoroughly to gut the house. This fortunately was not necessary, as £300 in gold and the remaining portion of the silver were found in the kitchen, secreted under the stairs. Meanwhile, other parties were examining the bed-rooms, and in that occupied by Mrs. Thompson the whole of the notes were recovered. There were £1000 Bank of England notes, £830 in notes of Scotch banks of various denominations above £1; and £613 in ditto of £1 each; and all these were discovered sewed up in the bolsters and bedding of Mrs. Thompson's bed. Every farthing therefore, amounting to very nearly £3000, has thus been recovered in a surprisingly short period. Mrs. Thompson, on being apprised of the discovery, was taken ill; she was, however, taken into custody, though allowed to remain in the house under the care of one of the matrons of the Berwick gaol. What future steps may be taken will depend upon the decision of the bank directors.

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THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—The arrivals of English wheat for our market during the present week have been small, and we had a very limited number of samples of that article here-to-day; yet, owing to the prevailing fine weather for harvest work in the north of England, the demand was in a very sluggish state, at, in most instances, a decline of 1s per quarter. In foreign wheat—the holders of which evinced a disposition to give way in price—next to nothing was doing. No new barley at market. Grinding sorts were quite as dear. In other kinds next to nothing was passing. Superfine malt was in fair request, at previous quotations, but other qualities commanded very little attention. Oats, beans, and flour without alteration.

ARRIVALS.—English: wheat, 2760; barley, 350; oats, 690. Irish: Wheat, —; barley, 1800 quarters. Foreign: wheat, 2210; barley, 3010; oats, 26,490. Flour, 1840 sacks; malt, 1800 quarters.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 4s to 5s; ditto white, 4s to 6s; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 4s to 5s; ditto white, 4s to 5s; rye, 3s to 4s; grain, 2s to 2s; distilling, 2s to 2s; malting ditto, 3s to 3s; Lincoln and North-mere, 6s to 6s; brown disto, 5s to 5s; Kingston and Ware, 6s to 6s; Chevalier, 6s to 6s; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, feed oats, 2s to 2s; potato ditto, 3s to 3s; Youghal and Cork, black, 2s to 2s; ditto white, 2s to 2s; tick beans, new, 3s to 3s; ditto old, 3s to 3s; grey peas, 3s to 3s; maple, 3s to 3s; white, 3s to 3s; boilers, 4s to 4s; extra, 5s to 5s; white, 6s to 6s; extra, 7s to 7s; Stockton and Yorkshire, 3s to 3s; per cwt. Town-made flour, 42s to 4s; bread, 4s to 4s; Dantzic, red, 4s to 5s; ditto white, 4s to 5s per quarter.

The Seed Market.—There has been rather more business doing in most kinds of seeds, and prices are well supported.

Linseed, English, sowing, 5s to 6s; Baltic, crushing, 3s 9d to 4s; Mediterranean and Odessa, 4s to 4s; Hempseed, 3s to 3s per quarter. Coriander, 1s 2d to 1s 4d per cwt. Brown mustard-seed, 7s to 8s; white ditto, 7s to 7s 6d. Linseed cakes, English, 2s 11d to 2s 11d 10s; Raisins, 22s to 22s; Raisins, 22s to 22s per lb. Raisins cakes, 2s 11d to 2s 11d 10s. Linseed oil, 1s 6d to 1s 6d per cwt. English Cloves-seed, red, 4s to 5s; extra, 5s to 5s; white, 6s to 6s; extra, 7s to 7s. Foreign, red, 4s to 4s; ditto white, 4s to 4s per cwt. Extra, 5s to 5s; white, 6s to 6s per cwt.

Imperial Weekly Average.—Wheat 4s 11d; barley, 2s 5d; oats, 2s 3d; rye, 3s 10d; beans, 3s 9d; peas, 3s 6d.

The Six Weeks' Average.—Wheat, 4s 5d; barley, 2s 3d; oats, 2s 3d; rye, 3s 10d; beans, 3s 9d; peas, 3s 2d.

Duties on Foreign Corn.—Wheat, 1s 0d; barley, 4s; oats, 4s 0d; rye, 4s 0d; peas, 4s 0d.

Tea.—This market has been in a very inactive state, yet we can notice

sign C. G. Richardson to be Lieutenant, vice Glazebrook; R. G. Augustus de Montmorency to be Ensign, vice Richardson; Lieutenant J. W. Armstrong to be Adjutant, vice Glazebrook. 63rd: Lieut. C. E. Fairlough to be Captain, vice Brevet Major Oliver. To be Lieutenants: Ensign H. M. Walmsley, vice Ford; Ensign J. Spier, vice Mahon; Ensign H. White, vice Walmsley. To be Ensigns: H. E. Quin, vice Spier; S. Fairlough, vice White. 71st: Sergeant-Major J. Taylor to be Quartermaster. 79th: Captain J. Ferguson to be Major, vice Lawrie; Lieut. A. Hunt to be Captain vice Ferguson; Ensign K. R. Maitland to be Lieutenant, vice Hunt; E. G. Place to be Ensign, vice Maitland. 88th: Ensign G. Thompson to be Adjutant, vice Knox.

Cape Mounted Riflemen—Lieut. J. R. O'Reilly to be Captain, vice Sandes; Ensign W. Harvey to be Lieutenant, vice O'Reilly; Sergeant-Major J. Harvey to be Ensign, vice W. Harvey.

UNATTACHED.—Brevet-Major T. C. Smith to be Major.

CO. CHAPLAIN.—Assistant Commissary-General Thomas Stickney to be Deputy Commissary-General.

MEMORANDUM.—The Christian names of Ensign King, of the 6th Foot, are Henry John, and his surname Newton King.

BANKRUPTS.—W. POUNELL, High-street, Poplar, grocer. H. WOOLCOTT, Museum-street, fringed manufacturer. W. SUTCLIFFE, Lawrence-lane, warehouseman. J. HARVEY, King William-street, lamp manufacturer. J. HUMFREY, Hockley, Warwickshire, coal-dealer. J. BRINDLEY, Coventry, lacemaker. J. BOLAND, Manchester, hardware-man. R. YATES and T. H. WILLIAMS, Manchester, merchants.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

J. HAY, Kilns, grocer. A. BROWN, Edinburgh, commission agent. M. GILMOUR and CO., Cowgate, cabinet-makers. R. GLASS, Greenock, merchant. A. BARBOUR, Johnstone, spirit-merchant.

FRIDAY, AUG. 28.

At the Court at Osborne House, Isle of Wight, the 27th day of August, 1846, present, the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council, her Majesty in Council was this day pleased to appoint the Right Hon. Gilbert Earl of Minto, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal, to be a Member of the Committee of Council to superintend the application of any sums voted by Parliament for the purpose of promoting Public Education.

WHITEHALL, AUG. 26.

The Queen has been pleased to direct letters patent to be passed under the Seal appointed by the Treaty of Union to be made use of in place of the Great Seal of Scotland, nominating and appointing John Earl of Saltair to be keeper of the said Seal.

DOWNING STREET, AUG. 25.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Oliver Byrne, Esq., to be Surveyor for her Majesty's Settlements in the Fidjians Islands.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—J. BUSH, Blackman-street, Surrey, victualler.

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BIRTHS.

At Tangier, the wife of John H. Drummond Hay, Esq., of a son.—At Glenfennan, Garroch, Dumfriesshire, the lady of Colonel P. Edmonstone Craigie, C.B., aide-de-camp to her Majesty, of a daughter.—Mrs. Robinson, of Maryland Point, Stratford, Essex, of a son.—At Clarence-terrace, Regent's Park, Mrs. Macready, of a daughter.—On the 10th of April, District of Bathurst, New South Wales, Mrs. Matthe Thomas Pratt, of a daughter.—The wife of Dr. Mullinder, of Westmoreland-place, Camberwell, of a daughter, still-born.—At Larnaca, the lady of Niven Kerr, Esq., Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for the Island of Cyprus, of a daughter.—In Eaton place, the lady of Captain Gladstone, R.N., M.P., of a daughter.—At Hampstead, the wife of the Rev. Dr. Saunders, of Charter House, of a daughter.—On the 24th instant, at 14, Montague-square, the lady of P. D. Fawcett Duncombe, Esq., jun., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

At Aberdour, James Lysaght, Esq., to Adelaide Jennetta Douglas, fifth daughter of the late Major-General Beatson.—At Harpenden, Herts, Henry Thompson, Esq., to Matilda, third daughter of Henry Oldaker, Esq.—At Notting-hill, John Calcott Horsley, Esq., to Elvira, eldest daughter of William Walter, Esq.

DEATHS.

On the 21st instant, the Rev. John Nottidge, M.A., Rector of East Hamptondale, and of the Peace for the county of Kent.—At New Cross, Josias Stanfield, Esq., one of her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the county of Kent.—At Shelton Rectory, Bedfordshire, Mary, wife of the Rev. Daniel Crofts.—At Slough, Bucks, Mrs. Henry, relict of the late Peter Henry Esq.—At Bath, Robert C. Sconce, Esq.—Aug. 18, at Bradford, Wilts, aged 84, Ann, relict of the late Mr. Thos. Chapman.—At Barton Hall, Norfolk, Jane, relict of the late Sir Thos. Preston, Bart.—At Llanilid Crossmead, Monmouthshire, Frances Elizabeth, widow of the late Mr. Sergeant Taddy.—In Upper Harley-street, Daniel Sturz, Esq., of Wykham-park, in the county of Oxford, aged 80.—At his house, in Mornington-place, Hampstead-road, Mr. Alfred Freebairn, the engraver.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

A STLEY'S ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. W. BATTY.—Under the especial patronage of her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, and Princess Royal.—Immense Novelty! An Entire Change! Fresh Additions to the Company. On MONDAY NEXT, August 24, and every Evening during the Week, will be presented the highly popular Drama of THE MERCHANT STEED; or, The Flight of Damon. Calanthe, Mrs. Morton Brooks; Damon, Mr. J. Har Quadruped. Magnificent SCENES OF THE HIPPODROME, by the French, German, and British Professors. The whole concluding with, for the last six nights, the Drama of THE NAMELESS.—Box-Office open from 11 to 5. Commence at 7—Stage-Director, Mr. T. Thompson.

STRAND THEATRE.—A party of Gentlemen, admirers of Dramatic Art, and advocates of a play, feeling disgusted and indignant at the UnEnglish and Unmannly Treatment of Mr. GREGORY at the DRAGNET, have taken this, the only house in the Metropolis at present available, and through the Acting Manager, Mr. Davidson, have invited Mr. GREGORY (who has consented to appear) to give a Limited number of nights with the assurance that he shall have, what every actor is entitled to, a clear stage and a fair hearing. The public is respectfully informed that this theatre is in course of preparation for the representation of some of Shakspeare's Plays; and will—every exertion being used to produce them in an efficient manner—be opened on MONDAY, with the Tragedy of OTHELLO, Othello by Mr. Gregory. After which, PERFECTION, Kate O'Brien, Miss M. Glover.—Places and Boxes to be taken at the Theatre. Private Boxes, £1 1s 6d. Boxes and Pit Seats, 4s. Pit, 2s. Gallery, 1s.

VAUXHALL OPEN EVERY NIGHT EXCEPT SATURDAY.

VAUXHALL.—On THURSDAY NEXT, A GRAND NAVAL GALA, under the most distinguished patronage. The Gardens will be most brilliantly illuminated. Devices of a Naval character will be displayed in front of the Quadrangle, and the Union Jack will be seen in all quarters. The Fireworks, by Darby, will be on a scale of magnificence hitherto unattempted. Arrangements are making with many professionals to do justice to the SONGS OF DIBDIN. It will be a Gala worthy of the patronage of the Jolly Tars of Old England, the defenders of her Wooden Walls.

Admission, 2s. Doors open at Half-past seven.

COLOSSEUM.—THE DAY EXHIBITION consists of the Panorama of London, Museum of Sculpture, Arabesque Conservatories, Gorgeous Gothic Aviary, Classic Ruins, Swiss Cottage, and Mont Blanc, with Mountain Torrent, &c.—From Ten till Five.

EVENING EXHIBITION.—The new and extraordinary Panorama of London, by Night, with additional atmospheric effects every half hour. Museum of Sculpture, Conservatories and Gorgeous Gothic Aviary, &c., brilliantly illuminated; Swiss Cottage, Mont Blanc, and Mountain Torrent, represented by Moonlight.—Open from Seven till Half-past Ten. The whole projected and designed by Mr. W. Bradwell.—The Grand Mexican Aloe still in Bloom: no Extra Charge.

THE WILD MAN OF THE PRAIRIES; or, "WHAT IS IT?" NOW EXHIBITING AT THE EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY. Is it an Animal? Is it Human? Is it an Extraordinary Freak of Nature? or is it a legitimate member of Nature's works? Or is it the long-sought for Link between Man and the Oorang Outang, which Naturalists have for years decided does exist, but which has hitherto been undiscovered? The Exhibitors of this indescribable Person or Animal do not pretend to assert what it is. They have named it the WILD MAN OF THE PRAIRIES; or, "WHAT IS IT?" because this is the universal exclamation of all who have seen it. Its features, hands, and the upper portion of its body are to all appearances human; the lower part of its body, the hind legs, and haunches, are decidedly animal! It is entirely covered, except the face and hands, with long flowing hair of various shades. It is larger than an ordinary sized man, but not quite so tall. "WHAT IS IT?" is decidedly the most extraordinary being that ever astonished the world. What is its intelligence pertaining to humanity, and can do anything it sees done, or anything which any animal can do?—can speak, read, or write.—Hours from 11 to 1, 3 to 5, and 7 to 9.—Doors open a Quarter of an hour previous. Admission, One Shilling. Children under Ten, Half-price. Exhibition to commence Monday, Aug. 31, 1846.

INVENTORS and DEPOSITORS of WORKING MODELS, and other Specimens of the Useful Arts (as well as the Visitors of the ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION) are respectfully informed that the Directors have given their anxious consideration to the appointment of DEMONSTRATOR IN MECHANICS, whose duty will be to explain to the Visitors the Principles and Uses of the above Specimens with clearness and simplicity. The Lectures now comprise the ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH, as well as other objects of present interest. The beautiful Optical Instruments, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.

TO AMATEURS OF MUSIC.—NOW READY, THE MUSICAL HERALD, Parts 1, 2, 3, and 4, price only 1s. each, consisting of Select Vocal and Instrumental Music; with entertaining and instructive Musical Literature. Edited by G. HOGARTH, Esq. The cheapest of the Musical Works hitherto published, and the best calculated with the price of the Musical Herald. On an average, the cost of admiral Airs and choice Pieces will not amount to One Farthing each. Published also in Weekly Numbers, price 2d.

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COMPANION TO THE PEERAGE. Now Ready, complete in 2 vols., royal 8vo., price £2 10s., bound, beautifully printed in double columns, uniformly with the Peerage and Baronetage.

MR. BURKE'S HISTORY OF THE LANDED GENTRY;

A Genealogical Dictionary of the Whole of the Untitled Aristocracy of England, Scotland, and Ireland.—This important national Work has been undertaken as a Companion to Mr. Burke's popular "Dictionary of the Peerage and Baronetage," and upon a similar plan, in order that the two publications may embrace the whole body of the British Peerage, Baronage, and Gentry, and furnish such a mass of authentic information, in regard to all the principal families in the kingdom, as never before been brought together. It relates to the Untitled Families of Rank, as the "Peerage and Baronetage" does to the Titled, and forms, in fact, a Peerage of the Untitled Aristocracy. It embraces the whole of the landed gentry, the lawyer, the historical student, the speculator in politics, and the curios in topographical and antiquarian love; and even the very spirit of ordinary curiosity will prompt the towns and villages of our land. This Work, abounding in interesting anecdote, and displaying deep research, must rank among the first class of those publications which elucidate or connect themselves with the annals of our country, and is indispensable to the library of every gentleman.—N.B. Purchasers of single Parts of this Work are advised to complete their sets without delay, as the Parts will only be sold separately for a short period.

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PRICE EIGHTEEN PENCE. A COMIC PANORAMA.

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TO CHESS AMATEURS.—See NO. 9, Vol. 7, of the CHESS PLAYER'S CHRONICLE for September, price only 1s. This number, in addition to its general store of Chess miscellanies, will, this month, be found to contain a splendid collection of Match Games; Games played Blindfold; Games, by M. M. Horwitz, Kieseritzky, Harrwitz, Staunton, &c. &c.; Mastery Problem, by a Native Indian Player; Chess in the Provinces, &c. &c.—HURST, 26, King William-street, Strand.

NEW WEEKLY JOURNAL OF CHEMISTRY AND PHARMACY. No. 1, of THE PHARMACEUTICAL TIMES; A Journal of Chemistry applied to the Arts, Agriculture, and Manufactures, will appear on SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5th. Price 5d., stamped 6d. In addition to original articles, by eminent chemists, with a careful review of Foreign and Home Chemical Intelligence; Course of Chemistry applied to the Arts and Manufactures, by the celebrated DUMAS; and of Practical Pharmacy, by Mr. WAERNINGTON, will be given in the first number.—Office, 49, Essex-street, Strand.

EUGENE'S NEW NOVEL.

MARTIN THE FOUNDLING; or, THE ADVENTURES of a VALET-DE CHAMBRE, appears regularly in the FAMILY HERALD, the most popular periodical of the day. The New Part, price 6d., contains, also, The Nieces A Wedding Race—Rimsky, by Frances Brown.—The Pilot—and other highly interesting Tales; with a variety of instructive and entertaining reading for the intelligent and reflecting All Booksellers and News Agents sell the Family Herald.

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SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

FRIDAY, AUG. 28.

At the Court at Osborne House, Isle of Wight, the 27th day of August, 1846, present, the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council, her Majesty in Council was this day pleased to appoint the Right Hon. Gilbert Earl of Minto, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal, to be a Member of the Committee of Council to superintend the application of any sums voted by Parliament for the purpose of promoting Public Education.

WHITEHALL, AUG. 26.

The Queen has been pleased to direct letters patent to be passed under the Seal appointed by the Treaty of Union to be made use of in place of the Great Seal of Scotland, nominating and appointing John Earl of Saltair to be keeper of the said Seal.

DOWNING STREET, AUG. 25.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Oliver Byrne, Esq., to be Surveyor for her Majesty's Settlements in the Fidjians Islands.

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OPENING OF THE QUEEN'S PARK, MANCHESTER.

adjacent to the river, including great part of Water-street, &c. It is very accessible, being on a spacious high road, and extremely well situated, so as to meet the requirements of the inhabitants at the westerly side of that aggregation of buildings and townships, generally known as Manchester. This Park is bounded on the east by the river Irwell; on the west, by the Strawberry Hill property (which

and within a circle of a mile radius is a population of at least 50,000, chiefly of the classes most needing the advantages afforded by a public park.

If the Peel Park be the most open, level, and spacious, and the Queen's Park the richest in sylvan and park-like character, best wooded and best watered, the Philips Park has the boldest and most romantic character of the three, consisting of high knolls, with much broken ground and a pretty little amphitheatre sloping down to the river Medlock. The greater part of this park is laid out as open park, divided by two footpaths into three spaces, and these again bisected for some distance by a rivulet, broken by weirs into a succession of ponds, and crossed here and there by a rustic bridge of oak. The drive, which extends quite round the park (with the exception of the low land in the delta), is eighteen feet in width; and, in the upper part, the view, especially in the direction of Newton Grange, with its meadows, is very pleasing; these appearing, when the river is hidden, as a part of the park itself. The natural inequalities of surface give a picturesque character to this park, which has been much admired, and which has no parallel in the metropolitan parks, or that at Birkenhead.

MEETING AT THE FREE-TRADE HALL.

At seven o'clock on Saturday evening the subscribers to the Park Fund assembled in the Free-Trade Hall. There

were several thousands present.

The Chair was taken by W. B. Watkins, Esq., Mayor of Manchester, who briefly addressed the meeting, apologised for the unexpected delay of the proceedings, which had been protracted beyond what was anticipated.

Mr. Marl Philips, M.P., next addressed the meeting. The hon. member concluded by proposing a resolution, pledging the meeting to a liberal maintenance of the parks that had been that day opened.

W. Entwistle, Esq., M.P., seconded the resolution, which was then put and carried unanimously.

Mr. Bright, M.P., moved a vote of thanks to the Committee of Management, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Watt, Secretary to the Working Classes Committee, and several other intelligent persons addressed the meeting during the proceedings, which did not terminate until after ten o'clock.

"THE HALF-WAY HOUSE."

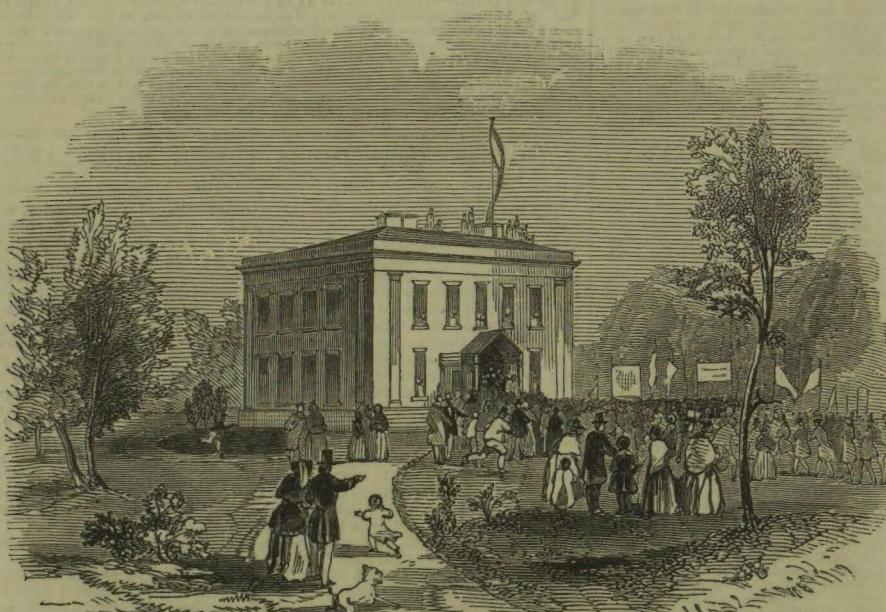
THE HALF-WAY HOUSE. The Half-Way Public-house, on the Kensington-road, which has for so many years disfigured the western entrance to the metropolis, to the obstruction of the foot and carriage ways, and the annoyance of the neighbouring residents, is at last in the course of removal, owing to the persevering efforts of Mr. Elger, the architect and builder, who is about to erect a range of noble dwelling-houses on the land opposite to it.

The cost of the demolition of this unseemly structure has been upwards of £3000, independently of the purchase of the fee, made some years since by the Commissioners of her Majesty's Woods and Forests, in furtherance of this object.

We learn that the influential inhabitants of the district are memorializing the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Woods and Forests, for a new entrance into Hyde-park, near to the site of "The Half-Way House;" we cannot but augur favourably of the result, as it would, unquestionably, be found a great public convenience.

"The Half-way House" appears to have long been a place of notoriety; and, the following mention of it in the trial of a highwayman, sentenced to death for robbery in 1752, shows the state of the roads bounding Hyde Park at that time, and also presents us with a picture of the substitutes then used for a good police. The principal witness in the trial, William Norton, deposed:—"The chaise to the Devizes having been robbed two or three times, as I was informed, I was desired to go in it, to see if I could take the thief, which I did, on the 3rd of June, about half an hour after one in the morning. I got into the post-chaise; the post-boy told me the place where he had been stopped was near "The Half-way House," between Knightsbridge and Kensington. As we came near the house, the prisoner came to us on foot and said, 'Driver, stop!' He held a pistol tinder-box to the chaise, and said, 'Your money, directly: you must not stay, this minute your money.' I said, 'Don't frighten us; I have but a trifle; you shall have it.' Then I said to the gentlemen (there were three in the chaise), 'Give your money.' I took out a pistol from my coat-pocket, and from my breeches-pocket a five-shilling piece and a dollar. I held the pistol concealed in one hand, and the money in the other. I held the money pretty hard: he said, 'Put it in my hat.' I let him take the five-shilling piece out of my hand: as soon as he had taken it, I snapped my pistol at him; it did not go off, he staggered back, and held up his hands, and said, 'Oh, Lord! oh, Lord!' I jumped out of the chaise; he ran away, and I after him, about 600 or 700 yards, and there took him. I hit him a blow on his back; he begged for mercy on his knees; I took his neckcloth off, and tied his hands with it, and brought him back to the chaise; then I told the gentlemen in the chaise that was the errand I came upon; and wished them a good journey, and brought the prisoner to London. Question by the Prisoner: Ask him how he lives? Norton: 'I keep a shop in Wych-street, and sometimes I take a thief.' The post-boy stated on the trial that he had told Norton if they did not meet the highwayman between Knightsbridge and Kensington, they should not meet him at all—a proof of the frequency of these occurrences in that neighbourhood.

Again, at Kensington, within the memory of man, on Sunday evenings, a bell used to be rung at intervals, to muster the people returning to town. As soon as a band was assembled, sufficiently numerous to insure mutual protection, it set off; and so on till all had passed. George the Fourth and the late Duke of York, when very young men, were stopped one night in a hackney-coach, and robbed, on Hay-hill, Berkeley-square! Happily, these things are matters of history; and gas-lighting and an efficient police have made the suburbs as safe as the "heart of London."



OPENING OF THE QUEEN'S PARK, MANCHESTER.

lies between the Walness property and the Bolton canal, extending from Lark Hill to Walness Bank), and by Walness Lane and Ford Lane, the ancient road to the Broughton Ford; on the north, by the Walness Meadows, extending to the Suspension Bridge erected over the Irwell, by John Fitzgerald, Esq., a little south of the old ford; and, on the south, by the Pendleton road, there called the Crescent. The area of the Park is a little larger than either of the others. It is about 32 acres, exceeding the Philips Park by one acre, and the Queen's Park by about two acres in extent. The lower part of the Park comprises the whole breadth of the Walness land, between Strawberry Hill or Walness-lane and the river, about 300 to 350 yards in breadth, and probably about 1200 yards in length from north to south; and, previously to being imparked, it consisted of three meadows, separated from the remainder of the Walness estate beyond the Park boundary to the north, by a ditch. The out-lying land consists principally of one meadow, extending nearly to the Broughton Suspension Bridge. This Park will be found engraved in No. 218 of our Journal.

THE QUEEN'S PARK, HENDHAM HALL, HARPURHEY.

This beautiful park, which contains 30 acres of land, is distant, in a N.E. direction, from the Manchester Exchange, as the crow flies, just one mile and three-quarters; but its first entrance gate is near the second milestone on the Rochdale-road.

This park, though the smallest of the three, possessed, previously to its conversion, the greatest natural and acquired advantages of any for adaptation to the purposes of a public park. It had been the most extensively planted of any of the sites purchased, and being occupied up to the time of its sale, as the residence and grounds of a private gentleman, the land and timber were in excellent order. The great features of this park are its superior advantages of cultivation, its possessing both level plateaux and undulating ground, terrace, dell, and clough, wood and water; the timber being mostly old, of large growth and very fine. In character it is very much like a private park and pleasure-ground. It is situated on an eminence, commanding some very fine and extensive prospects over the valley of the Irk, which stream flows in the gorge far below it, and at a sufficient distance to offer no annoyance to the promenaders in the park. Within the belt of trees and shrubs, which extend quite round the park, is carried a drive, and a carriage-way also passes from the old lodge up to the house. This latter drive divides the garden in front of the house into two open parks, ornamented here and there by clumps or single trees. The middle portion of the land, from the house southward to the drive, is occupied by the lake and a pretty flower garden; and behind these and the house is a third open park; the space between the drive and the park fence is fitted up with archery grounds, skittle-alleys, quoit grounds, play-grounds, gymnasium, &c. From the back windows of the house some fine views of the park and the neighbouring country are obtained, both towards Cheadle, in which the spire of St. Luke's Church, embosomed in trees, is a striking and pleasing object, and towards Rochdale, Oldham, &c.

THE PHILIPS PARK, MILL-LANE, BRADFORD.

This park is thirty-one acres in extent; and is distant, as the crow flies, about a mile and seven furlongs from the Exchange, but by the nearest road is upwards of two miles. It is just a mile and a half in a direct line from the Queen's Park;



"THE HALF-WAY HOUSE," BETWEEN KNIGHTSBRIDGE AND KENSINGTON.